

CITY OF BATH



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND

PRINCIPAL

SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER

AND OF THE

CHIEF

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

(A. Tyler, M.B.E., F.R.S.H., F.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.A.)

FOR THE YEAR

1956

B. A. Astley Weston, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health

and Principal School Medical Officer

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CITY OF BATH.

December, 1956

Mayor : Councillor S. A. SMITH.

HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Chairman : Mrs. Councillor E. M. WILLIAMS.

The Mayor; Aldermen J. W. Andrews, W. Barrett, W. H. Rossiter.

Councillors :—R. P. Campbell, S. D. Chappell, J. A. H. N. Coulston,
A. N. Dix, C. E. S. Dodd, E. W. Evans, K. J. Gray,
Miss A. M. Hicks, T. Jones, H. Mallory, Mrs. H. E. Miles,
H. Nation, L. St. V. Powell, L. A. Winckworth.

Co-opted Members :—

Mr. R. Brain,	Dr. L. D. Brice	Dr. K. Caddick,
Mr. T. J. Cornish,	Miss K. M. Ealand,	Miss D. Harper,
Mrs. E. Millen,	Mr. W. E. Sheppard,	Mr. E. W. Smith,
	Mrs. J. Wesley Whimster.	

Sub-Committees :—

HEALTH SERVICES:

The Mayor; Alderman W. Barrett.

Councillors :—R. P. Campbell, J. A. H. N. Coulston, C. E. S. Dodd,
E. W. Evans, T. Jones, Mrs. E. M. Williams.

Mr. R. Brain, Dr. L. D. Brice, Dr. K. Caddick, Miss K. M. Ealand,
Miss D. Harper, Mrs. E. Millen, Mr. W. E. Sheppard.

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES:

Aldermen W. Barrett, W. H. Rossiter.

Councillors :—A. N. Dix, K. J. Gray, T. Jones, Mrs. H. E. Miles,
L. St. V. Powell, Mrs. E. M. Williams.

Dr. K. Caddick, Mr. T. J. Cornish, Mr. E. W. Smith,
Mrs. J. Wesley Whimster.

SANITARY AND GENERAL PURPOSES:

Aldermen J. W. Andrews, W. Barrett.

Councillors :—S. D. Chappell, J. A. H. N. Coulston, Miss A. M. Hicks,
T. Jones, H. Mallory, Mrs. H. E. Miles, H. Nation,
L. St. V. Powell, Mrs. E. M. Williams, L. A. Winckworth.

Mr. R. Brain.

SPECIAL SUB-COMMITTEE *re* HEALTH CENTRES:

The Mayor; Alderman W. Barrett.

Councillors :—T. Jones, Mrs. E. M. Williams.

Dr. L. D. Brice, Mr. T. J. Cornish.

HOUSING COMMITTEE.

Chairman : Alderman S. DAY.

The Mayor; Aldermen S. J. Amblin, J. W. Andrews.

Councillors :—

A. L. Bird, R. P. Campbell, J. A. H. N. Coulston, M. L. Giles,
K. J. Gray, H. S. Howard, A. C. Knight, Mrs. G. Maw
E. W. A. Mortimer L. St. V. Powell, R. H. Purdie.

Co-opted Members :—

Mrs. H. I. Bowery, Mrs. F. E. Coltart.

STAFF. December, 1956.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health and Principal School Medical Officer.

B. A. Astley Weston, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health and Deputy Principal School Medical Officer.

N. Newman, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Assistant Medical Officers :

Irene M. Leach, M.B., Ch.B., D.C.H.

Helen M. H. Mack, M.B., Ch.B.

City Analyst : G. V. James, M.B.E., M.Sc., Ph.D., F.R.I.C.

Chief Public Health Inspector :

A. Tyler, M.B.E., F.R.S.H., F.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.A.,
(Scot.).

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector :

G. W. Dhenin, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

District Public Health Inspectors :

R. W. L. Read, D.P.A., M.A.P.H.I.

R. J. Pendlebury, D.P.A., M.A.P.H.I.

D. G. I. Smith, D.P.A., M.A.P.H.I.

R.E. Adams, M.A.P.H.I.

R. C. Decent, M.A.P.H.I.

W. Foster, M.A.P.H.I. (from 2.7.56).

Rodent Officer : R. E. Hanham.

Senior Health Visitor :

Miss N. M. Hill, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.,
Sister Tutor's Cert.

Health Visitors (and School Nurses) :

Mrs. G. Chinnery, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.

Miss P. Silby, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.

Miss B. J. MacQuillan, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.

Miss D. Milsom, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.

Miss S. E. Jones, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.

Miss D. A. Peadon, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.

Miss M. E. Bodys, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.

Miss E. J. Osborne, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.

Tuberculosis Health Visitor :

Miss J. E. Bailey, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert., T.A. (Cert.)

Matron, Riverside Day Nursery :

Mrs. H. A. Hunt, S.R.N.

Superintendent, Council Midwives and Home Nurses :

Miss D. S. Norman, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.

(from 20.8.56).

Deputy Superintendent :

Miss M. H. Dorey, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.

(from 1.1.57).

Council Midwives :

Miss J. A. Young, S.C.M.

Miss R. M. Purnell, S.R.N., S.C.M.

Mrs. M. Dutton, S.R.N., S.C.M. (from 27.8.56).

Home Nurses :

Mrs. E. Chapman, S.R.N. (Part-Time), Miss G. M. Dobson, S.R.N., Mrs. E. L. Dunn, S.R.N., Mrs. R. O. Evans, S.R.N., Q.N., Miss C. P. Hetherington, S.R.N., Miss T. C. Hetherington, S.E.A.N., Mrs. M. E. Indoe, S.R.N., Mrs. E. Leadbeater, S.R.N., S.C.M. (Part-Time), Mrs. M. A. Luscombe, S.R.N., Mrs. E. Simpson, S.R.N., Mrs. B. E. Teckkam, S.R.N., Miss D. E. Temlett, S.E.A.N.

Mental Health Officers :

R. L. Reddish, Dip.Soc.Sc., R.M.N.

J. G. McLeod, S.R.N., R.M.N.

Psychiatric Social Worker :

Miss M. Phillips (Part-Time).

Supervisor, Occupation Centre :

Mrs. D. Denyer.

Assistants, Occupation Centre :

Mrs. F. E. Tavender

Miss W. M. Piper

Home Help Organiser :

Mrs. E. M. Reeves

Clerks :

C. J. Taylor, D.P.A.,

Chief Clerk.

R. G. Lavis, D.P.A.

Mrs. H. M. Welch

Miss B. White

Mrs. B. J. Warren

(from 10.9.56).

A. Ashman

Miss M. Perkins

J. Brann

T. Hemmings

Mrs. D. Corless

Mrs. B. Hucker

B. Morgan

Miss R. M. Case

R. F. Cowlin

Miss E. R. White

(from 9.1.56).

TO HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR, THE ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS OF THE
THE CITY OF BATH

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the pleasure to present my Report as Medical Officer of Health, for the year ending 31st December, 1956. This is the ninety-second Report on the health and sanitary circumstances of the City in a series extending back to 1864 almost without interruption. With this Report is also bound a report on the health of the children attending the Local Authority's Schools, and the report of the Chief Public Health Inspector on the sanitary environment in which citizens live and work.

The labour expended by Mr. Tyler, Mr. Taylor and Mr. Clark in preparing the mass of information contained in these Reports will be well rewarded if it affords, as it should, useful and reliable data to the Council in assessing the present position, and in forming policies for the future. Exactly fifty years ago, Dr. W. H. Symons, the Medical Officer of Health, said in his Report "the commercial value of human life does not appear to have been grasped by the general public, who in the cry for reduced rates, forget that penny wisdom is too often pound foolishness, and we have to pay very heavily for false economy." We have advanced since then in appreciation of the value of human life, and as this Report shows, mortality and morbidity from many causes have been reduced very considerably.

While health measures are still aimed at reducing death and sickness rates, the emphasis now is on the health and happiness of the citizens. It is less easy to demonstrate that the small sum spent on these measures is in fact a wise economy. The virtual disappearance of diphtheria, the reduction of the death rates among expectant mothers and infants, the improvement in the death rate from tuberculosis, are evidence that health measures taken in the last fifty years, and the cost to the ratepayer have been amply justified.

The picture is not so bright in respect of Cancer, where at the time of writing, cancer of the lung and bronchus is causing some concern. Where newly born infants and stillborn babies are concerned there has not been the improvement found in older infants. In both these matters special investigation and research is being carried out, in which your staff are playing a part. It is hoped as a result causes will be found and remedial measures devised.

Physical health has improved in very great measure, but the same cannot be said of mental health. Matrimonial troubles, juvenile and adult delinquency, the H-bomb, and possibly "rock and roll" suggest that the world is mentally very sick. Whatever the causes of this mental sickness, it seems that they enter into every home, and have disastrous effect on young children. The staff of the Health Department is well aware of this, and apart from the work of the Mental Health Officers, the Health Visitors, Social Workers and all whose work takes them into the homes of the people, are concentrating effort to study and improve the training and mental health of young children in the hope that early training may produce happier teenagers and adults. A chip on their

shoulders in childhood is apt to become a burden in adult life which may be the cause of mental and physical catastrophe in youth or adult life.

I am glad to be able to report the loyal and conscientious work of all members of the staff of the Health Department, and I am grateful to each individual for their hard work and support given to me personally.

At the same time I wish to record with regret the loss of some valued colleagues. Miss A. Cook, Superintendent of District Nurses and Midwives, and her assistant, Miss E. M. Vigar, retired during 1956, after giving many years of unremitting service to the sick and poor of this City. Their kindness and sympathetic service has been much valued by their patients, and the medical profession, and their co-operation with the Health Department greatly appreciated. I wish to welcome Miss D. S. Norman who has taken Miss Cook's place, and wish her happiness and success in her arduous task.

At the same time I record with equal regret the resignation of Miss J. M. Double from the clerical staff on emigration to New Zealand, and the retirement of Miss B. Bowler after 38 years of loyal service in the School Health and Dental Departments.

In matters of health and sanitation it is no longer possible to confine our field of vision to the area of the Local Authority, and there is of necessity a vast amount of recording, reporting, and exchange of information between the Health Department, neighbouring authorities and Government departments. The professional and technical members of the staff have reason to be grateful to the administrative and clerical staff for carrying out these duties so willingly and satisfactorily.

I wish again to thank the members of the Council, and particularly of the Health and Education Committees, for their understanding and guidance throughout another year.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

B. A. ASTLEY WESTON,

*Medical Officer of Health and
Principal School Medical Officer.*

September, 1957.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS.

City and County Borough of Bath.

Health Resort and Chief Town of Somerset.

Area of the Borough, 6277 Statute acres.

Situation—Latitude 51° 23' N., Longitude 2° 21' W.

Elevation—Varies from 50 feet above sea level on the lower banks of the Bath Avon to about 550 feet on the South and 700 feet on the North.

Mean elevation—269 feet above sea level.

Geological Formation—Oolitic Clays, Limestones and Sands; Lias and Gravel.

Water—Constant service of moderately hard spring water. Corporation Reservoirs have a total capacity of 61,305,000 gallons. Average daily consumption, 1956, 33.54 gallons per head; 1951-55 32.64 gallons.

Sewage disposal almost exclusively by water carriage. Treated at Saltford.

House refuse removed by the Sanitary Authority.

Population - 79,294 (1951 Census). 79,800 (estimate mid 1956).

Number of inhabited houses, Census 1951, 21,460 (*i.e.*, structurally separate dwellings occupied by private families). Estimate for 1956, 23,300.

	Years	...	1956.	1955.	Mean of 1951-55.	Mean of 1946-50.
Population { Birth, Marriage and				
Death rates	79,800	79,600	79,520	76,820
Rateable Value in March, 1957	£	1,145,778	712,580	692,970	652,914
Rates—Total per £	17/-	23/4	22/1	18/4
One penny General Rate produced	£	4,480	2,800	2,761	2,613
Total net indebtedness 1st April, 1957	£	7,688,855	6,873,234	5,778,091	3,258,818
Ditto per head of Population	...	£	96-7-0	86-7-0	72-15-6	42-15-1
MARRIAGES—Number Registered	605	605	601	662
Rate per 1000 population. Bath	15.2	15.2	15.1	17.2
Ditto. England and Wales	15.8	16.1	15.9	17.6
BIRTHS -Number ... Bath	1072	1068	1096	1285
Rate per 1000 population	13.7	13.4	13.8	16.8
Ditto. England and Wales	15.7	15.0	15.3	18.0
Illegitimate births per 1000 infants born Bath	49	52	49	64
DEATHS—Number—Civilian Bath residents	1013	998	1033	1039
Net rate per 1000 population, Bath	12.7	12.5	13.0	13.5
Standardized rate for age and sex	10.3	9.8	10.5	11.2
England and Wales, Crude Death-rate	11.7	11.7	11.6	11.5
INFANT MORTALITY— Bath	19.6	20.6	22.2	32
England and Wales	23.8	24.9	27.0	36
Illegitimate Infants Bath	19.2	—	19.1	45
PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH—						
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	4	7	12	26
"Other" Tuberculosis	1	1	1	4
Influenza	6	8	12	8

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS--Continued

Years ...				1956	1955	Mean of 1951-55	Mean of 1946-50
Pneumonia	...	...	...	59	48	56	45
Bronchitis	...	...	...	30	41	40	24
Cancer	...	...	...	197	191	176	158
Cerebral Hæmorrhage, etc., Heart Disease & other Circulatory diseases				522	525	543	556
Nephritis	...	...	...	8	7	16	21
Violence	...	...	...	52	42	44	38
DEATH RATES per 1000 population from—							
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	...	...	0·05	0·09	0·15	0·34
"Other" Tuberculosis	...	...	...	0·01	0·01	0·01	0·05
Influenza	...	...	...	0·08	0·10	0·15	0·10
Pneumonia	...	...	...	0·74	0·60	0·70	0·59
Bronchitis	...	...	...	0·38	0·52	0·51	0·31
Cancer	...	...	...	2·47	2·40	2·24	2·06
DEATHS at various age periods—							
Under 1 year	...	...	...	22	22	25	42
1 to 5 years	...	...	...	—	2	5	7
Between 5 and 60 years	...	...	...	173	147	161	186
Over 60 years	...	...	...	818	827	843	804
INFECTIOUS DISEASE—Cases notified							
Diphtheria	...	...	...	—	—	1	6
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	30	45	66	50
Dysentery	...	...	...	358	172	54	3
Erysipelas	...	...	...	5	6	9	12
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	...	—	—	1	2
Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis	...	...	...	9	4	16	12
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	31	15	7	6
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	...	...	45	53	58	77
"Other" Tuberculosis	...	...	...	4	5	8	10
<i>See also pages 44 and 84</i>							
INFECTIOUS DISEASE Attack rates per 1000 population—							
Diphtheria	...	...	...	0·00	0·00	0·01	0·08
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	0·38	0·57	0·85	0·65
Erysipelas	...	...	...	0·06	0·07	0·11	0·15
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	0·39	0·19	0·09	0·07
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	...	...	0·56	0·67	0·74	1·00
"Other" Tuberculosis	...	...	...	0·05	0·07	0·10	0·13

Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the City of Bath for the Year 1956.

STATISTICS.

Population. The Registrar-General's estimate of the 1956 mid-year population was 79,800, an increase of 200 compared with 1955. (1951 Census, 79,294).

Births and Infant Mortality. There were 1,072 births in 1956; 4 more than last year. The rate per thousand population for 1956 after correction was 13.7 compared with 13.4 for last year, while the rate for England and Wales was 15.7.

The Infant Mortality rate was 19.6 per 1,000 live births compared with 20.6 in 1955, and an average of 22.2 for the 5 years, 1951-55. The 1956 figure for the Country as a whole was 23.8 which was the lowest ever recorded.

The number of illegitimate births was 52, as compared with 56, 51 and 50 for the three previous years.

The Infant Mortality rate of 19.6 is the lowest ever recorded in Bath. Twenty years ago it was 45 per thousand live births. During 1956, of the 21 infants who died in the first year of life, no less than 19 were under four weeks of age, giving a neo-natal mortality rate (*i.e.* deaths under 4 weeks of age) of 17.7.

Maternal Mortality. There were two maternal deaths in Bath during the year giving a rate of 1.83 per thousand live and stillbirths. The average of 5 years, 1951-55 for Bath was 0.93, and for England and Wales, 0.73.

Marriages. The number registered as taking place in Bath, not necessarily of Bath people, was 605, the same number as last year. The marriage rate per thousand population was 15.2 and for England and Wales, 15.8.

Deaths. The net death rate for the City for 1956 was 12.7 per 1,000 population, a little higher than last year's rate of 12.5. The "standardised" death rate was 10.3 per 1,000 population, compared with 11.7 for England and Wales. The average "standardised" death rate for the ten year period 1946-55 for Bath was 10.8.

To enable the death rate for Bath to be compared with other areas, and with the country as a whole, what is called a "correcting factor" is applied to the net death rate, and when this rate is multiplied by the "correcting factor" the result is known as the standardised death rate. This year the "correcting factor" was 0.81.

Details of the principal causes of death, and the incidence in various age groups, are given in the Summary (pages 82 and 83), but it should be noted that the figures are compiled from local records, and may not agree precisely with those prepared by the Registrar-General

The following are extracts from the vital statistics for Bath.

		Total.	M.	F.	
Live Births	Legitimate	1020	533	487	} Birth Rate, 13.7
	Illegitimate	52	29	23	
Stillbirths	....	22	15	7	Rate per 1,000
					total births, 20.1
Deaths	....	1013	469	544	Death-rate, 10.3
					(standardised)

Deaths from puerperal causes :—

	Deaths.	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births.
Puerperal sepsis ...	—	0.00
Other puerperal causes	2	1.83

Death-rate of infants under one year of age per 1,000 live births :—

Legitimate, 19.6; Illegitimate, 19.2; Total, 19.6

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	197
„ „ Measles (all ages)	...	—
„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	1
„ „ Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	—

The Stillbirth rate of 20.1 shows a considerable fall compared with last year's figure of 31.7. The national average, was 23.0 for 1956.

(For number of births, birth rates, infant mortality and maternal mortality see pages 9 and 10).

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

No material changes took place during the year in the administrative arrangements indicated in my Report for the year 1952.

HEALTH CENTRES.

No action was taken with regard to Health Centres during the year.

CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN.

Child Welfare. For the purposes of child welfare, the City is divided into eight districts, in each of which a Health Visitor works, combining her duties with that of School Nurse. There are seven child welfare clinics, at which a total of eight sessions are held weekly, with an Assistant Medical Officer and Health Visitor in attendance, together with Voluntary Helpers, who assist in weighing infants, distributing welfare foods, and other clerical duties. Their assistance is very much appreciated.

The Health Visitor sees all those who attend, and each child on the register is seen quarterly by the Medical Officer and as often as necessary between. Children found to need treatment are referred to their Family Doctor, and if Specialist advice is necessary they are sent to the Paediatric Clinics held at the Royal United Hospital or St. Martin's Hospital.

Every effort is made to carry out informal health education at the Clinics for the benefit of the mothers who attend. Literature on many health topics is available, and talks are given by the Health Visitors and others on subjects likely to be of interest.

Proprietary milk and welfare foods, as well as National Dried Milk, Cod Liver Oil and Orange Juice are available at the various Infant Clinics.

The following is a summary of the "take up" of the Ministry's welfare foods during 1956 as compared with the previous year, figures for which are shown in brackets.

National Dried Milk (Tins)	Cod Liver Oil (Bottles)	Orange Juice (Bottles)	Vitamin Tablets (Packets)
26,964 (30,765)	9,795 (12,187)	79,809 (79,233)	4,846 (4,570)

INFANT WELFARE CENTRES.

For days and times see page 35. Figures for 1956 are as follows:—

ATTENDANCES.

Clinic	Sessions	Seen by Doctor	Average	Not seen by Doctor	Average
Blue Coat House ...	101	1914	19.0	2198	21.8
Walcot ...	51	909	17.8	1503	29.5
Oldfield Park ...	51	656	12.9	734	14.4
Southdown ...	48	563	11.7	350	7.3
Odd Down ...	51	549	10.8	509	10.0
Weston ...	49	452	9.2	497	10.1
Twerton	51	441	8.6	266	5.2
Total ...	402	5484	13.6	6057	15.1

(In 1955 there were 5,139 consultations and 5,935 other attendances giving an average of 13.0 and 15.0 respectively).

Expectant and Nursing Mothers. Because of the expansion of the ante-natal clinic at St. Martin's Hospital and the change in booking arrangements, the attendance at the Local Authority's ante-natal clinic has decreased. The number of sessions held was therefore reduced from two to one per week.

The examination of any pathological material and blood testing (Group, Rh. factor, Kahn or Wasserman) is carried out by arrangement with the Pathological Department at St. Martin's Hospital. X-ray examination of the lungs is offered to each mother by arrangement with the Hospital Management Committee.

A Relaxation Clinic is held in conjunction with the ante-natal clinic, under the direct charge of a physiotherapist. 160 sessions were held at which, 1,610 attendances were made by expectant mothers. 1,387 in the previous year).

Sterilized maternity outfits are provided for all domiciliary confinements.

All the services of the Ante-natal and Relaxation Clinics are available to General Practitioners who wish to refer patients.

It is probably right that as the maternity services under the National Health Service Act develop, there should be changes in the work of the Local Authority Ante-natal clinics. Hospitals and General Practitioner Obstetricians are undertaking more of this work, and there remains for the Local Authority to provide the teaching of mothercraft during the ante-natal period. This most important health education is much appreciated by young parents, and the Local Authority staff, Doctors, Midwives and Health Visitors are most competent to give it.

While ante-natal supervision by the Local Authority is likely to diminish, the development of mothercraft must increase as a Local Authority function.

Ante-Natal Clinics. Figures in brackets are those for 1955.

				Rivers Street
Number of Sessions	...	...	...	90 (96)
Number of new patients	...	...	...	89 (160)
Total attendances	...	...	...	754 (1067)
Average per session	...	...	...	8 (11)
Ante-natal home visits by City Midwives	...	...	...	1725 (1243)

Post-Natal Clinic.

Number of Sessions	...	...	...	12 (12)
New patients	...	...	...	52 (68)
Total attendances	...	...	...	52 (75)

Instruction in mothercraft is given at the clinics, but in addition to this, a general invitation is given to mothers to attend special courses of lectures conducted by Dr. Irene Leach, Assistant Medical Officer, and Miss S. Jones, one of our Health Visitors. Six of these courses were held at the Health Department during the year, and 260 mothers attended. Fathers are invited to certain of the lectures, and a number avail themselves of this opportunity.

There is excellent co-operation between the maternity staff of the hospitals and the Council's Health Visitors by way of exchange of information both during and after confinement.

The booking of beds in the Maternity Ward at St. Martin's Hospital is now carried out there, but all cases where application for admission is made on social grounds are referred to the Health Department for investigation by the City Midwives. Beds at the Royal United Hospital continue to be booked through the Health Department.

All the facilities available to expectant mothers may be, and are used by unmarried mothers without distinction, but in three instances the City Council made grants of up to £20 per case towards the cost of maintaining these mothers in Mother and Baby Homes. Normally the grant covers a period six weeks before and six weeks after confinement, in order that the mother may be given moral training, and time to consider her future and that of the child. Arrangements in these cases are made through the Moral Welfare Worker attached to the Bath and Keynsham Moral Welfare Association.

The City Council made a grant of £50 towards the general funds of the Association in addition to the grants made to individual cases. Of the three cases thus assisted, one returned to Ireland and married after the baby had been adopted; one infant was taken into the care

of the Children's Committee because of the mother's mental capacity, and one mother and baby returned to the parent's home where the child was accepted into the family.

Care of Premature Infants. It has not been considered necessary to make special domiciliary provision for premature infants, as both general hospitals are adequately equipped. Distances to either hospital are short, and heated ambulances are always available if admission to hospital is necessary. About 86% of the babies born this year to Bath residents took place in hospital or Nursing Home. All 6 premature cases nursed entirely at home survived 28 days.

Dental Care. The number of expectant mothers, and children under five years of age seen at the Local Authority's Dental Clinics showed a further decline during the year. So far as expectant mothers are concerned, it is found that the majority prefer to be examined and treated by their own dentist. Every effort is made both at the Ante-natal and Child Welfare Clinics to impress the need for dental care, and similar dental education is carried out by the Health Visitors and Midwives in the homes.

One Dental Surgeon left the service at the beginning of the year, and could not be replaced. It has therefore been found to be almost impossible to maintain an adequate service for children of school age, in addition to the other priority groups.

The Dental Clinic has its own X-ray apparatus, and dentures are made by arrangement with a private technician.

The following is a summary of the work carried out during 1956 :—

(a) Numbers provided with dental care :

	Examined	Needing treatment	Treated	Treatment completed
Expectant and Nursing mothers	28	28	20	6
Children under five	46	46	46	26

(b) Forms of dental treatment provided :

	Scalings and Gum Treatment	Fillings	Silver Nitrate treatment	Crowns or Inlays	Extractions	General Anaesthetics	Dentures provided		Radiographs
							Full Upper or Lower	Partial Upper or Lower	
Expectant and Nursing mothers	12	21	—	—	12	10	2	2	1
Children under five	—	16	10	—	52	33	—	1	2

Orthopædic Treatment. By arrangement with the Bath Hospital Management Committee regular sessions are held by the Orthopædic Surgeon in the Health Department, with weekly sessions by the After-Care Sister for physiotherapy recommended by the Surgeon. Patients are referred for Ultra-Violet Ray or Hot Pool treatments to the City Bathing Establishment. During the year, 239 children under school age, including 97 new cases made 567 attendances to the Surgeon's and After-Care Sister's Clinics. 24 children made 171 attendances at Massage Clinics.

Eye Clinic. 88 children under school age made 201 attendances at the Eye Clinic held at the Bath Eye Infirmary. 25 new cases were referred for defective vision and squint, and 3 for other eye conditions.

Ear, Nose & Throat Clinic. 17 children under five years of age attended this clinic held at the St. Martin's Hospital, and 6 tonsil and adenoid operations were performed

Family Planning Clinic. A weekly evening clinic arranged by the Bath Branch of the Family Planning Association is held at the Health Department Clinic, Sawclose, where family planning advice is given by experienced medical and nursing staff. 409 patients were seen during the year, of whom 257 came from Bath, the others being referred from the surrounding County areas.

Day Nursery. The accommodation at the Riverside Day Nursery (55 places) was used fully during the year. The daily average attendance was reduced to 42, mainly due to the number of children who were away because of dysentery during the early part of the year. There were 60 children on the register at the end of the year. There has been a constant waiting list of children for admission to the Nursery, but normally the available places have proved adequate to meet the various priority classes.

Priority is given (a) to children in homes where the mother is compelled to work because she is unmarried, or because of the death of the father or separation of the parents; (b) where home conditions are unhealthy or unsuitable; or (c) where the mother is in essential employment. Every application is considered by a Medical Officer.

The Nursery is approved for student training, and at the end of the year, nine students were being trained for the National Nursery Examination. These students spend a proportion of their time in theoretical training at the Bath Technical College, and have practical training at the nursery.

Residential Nurseries. Residential Nursery provision is provided by the Children's Committee either in one of that Committee's homes for short stay cases, or by arrangement with the Church of England Children's Society at Saville House, Bath or at Sunnyside, Box, for long stay cases.

The Local Authority Medical Officers carry out the necessary medical examinations on admission or discharge, and periodically while the child is in the Children's Committee Homes. Treatment of any child is given by a general practitioner should it be necessary. General medical supervision of these Homes is given by regular visits by an Assistant Medical Officer.

Nurseries and Child Minders Regulation Act, 1948.

One person remained on the Register at the end of the year, although little use appears to be made of the service. One private day nursery was registered providing accommodation for 20 children.

Prevention of Break-up of Families

(Ministry of Health Circular 27/54)

There is very close collaboration between the Health Department and Children's Department in all matters concerning the care of deprived children and of problem families. The Children's Officer has been appointed to act as convenor of the executive co-ordinating committee which meets to consider particular cases. At such meetings, which are entirely informal, each case is considered from the angle of the Children's Department, which is largely social; of the Health Visitor and School Health aspect, concerning health and education, and when necessary, Housing, Mental Health, and all too frequently that of the Probation Officer and N.S.P.C.C. Inspector. During 1956 six meetings of the Co-ordinating Committee were held, and from June of that year it was agreed that regular monthly meetings be arranged.

MIDWIFERY.

The Local Authority's Midwives work under the immediate supervision of the Superintendent of the District Nursing Association, who is also the Non-Medical Supervisor of Midwives. Three domiciliary midwives were employed throughout the year, and this number proved adequate to cope with the comparatively small number of home confinements. The establishment of the Health Department provides for five domiciliary midwives. Two midwives are resident near new housing areas, and one is resident in the District Nurses' Home.

During the year, three pupil midwives received part of their training on the district by arrangement with the West Wilts Hospital Management Committee. One of the midwives as well as the Superintendent hold the Teacher's Training Certificate.

Sets of gas and air and trilene apparatus are available, and all midwives are qualified in their use. The apparatus is demonstrated to the mothers attending the Local Authority's Ante-natal Clinics. The equipment was used on 82 occasions at confinements attended by the Council's midwives, and Pethidine was administered on 87 occasions. A total of 1,725 home visits were made by the City Midwives in connection with the 148 confinements they attended. The latter figure shows an increase of 23 cases on the previous year.

General Practitioners are notified when one of their patients books a City Midwife for her confinement. A personal summary card is supplied to the patient on which the important clinical details of the pregnancy may be entered by the General Practitioner or Midwife, so that each is kept informed. This procedure has been much appreciated by both.

During 1956, 56 Midwives notified their intention to practise in the City, of whom 42 were on the staff of the Hospital Management Committee, 1 was in a Maternity Nursing Home, 6 in private practice and 7 on the staff of the Local Authority. 5 Midwives did not conduct any cases in the City, 24 attended 30 or more cases each, and 11 less than 10 each.

The number of births (including stillbirths) attended by all midwives was 1,638. (Last year it was 1,565).

Altogether, a doctor was called in under the Rules of the Central Midwives' Board on 11 occasions for various emergencies in connection with births and miscarriages.

The following table gives the place of confinement of the registered live births in Bath.

	Royal United & Forbes Fraser Hospitals	St. Martin's Hospital	Private Maternity Homes	Private Houses
Bath mothers	503	386	7	145
Non-residents ...	126	399	2	5
Total	629	785	9	150

Percentage—

Bath mothers	48.3% (46.3%)	37.1% (40.5%)	0.7% (.6%)	13.9% (12.3%)
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(Figures for 1955 are shown in brackets)

The percentage of Bath mothers having their babies in hospital fell slightly from 86.8% to 85.4%, while domiciliary confinements rose from 12.3% to 13.9%. The number of confinements in private maternity homes showed a further slight decline.

HEALTH VISITING

There are eight full-time Health Visitors each responsible for a district of the City. A Senior Health Visitor who does not work on a district is responsible for immediate administration giving particular attention to health education in the homes and elsewhere. Each Health Visitor acts also as a school nurse in the Infant and Junior Schools in her district, thus ensuring continuity of supervision of the children from birth to about 11 years of age.

The following table shows the nature of the work done by Health Visitors during the preceding five years.

Visits made by Health Visitor/School Nurses

Year	To Children in their own homes		School Children*		Expectant Mothers	Other Visits
			At School	Follow-up in homes		
	Under 1	1-5				
1951	7841	7824	1432	1509	185	222
1952	7417	7005	1606	1452	176	472
1953	7566	7585	1463	1163	452	504
1954	6894	6874	1409	1331	335	429
1955	7634	6990	1494	1514	309	962
1956	7778	7131	1602	2253	330	1816

(*figures include work of whole-time School Nurses)

There has been a great increase in the number of "other visits" carried out by Health Visitors which are made necessary by enquiries connected with housing, the care of the aged and chronic sick, infectious illness, supervision of female mental defectives on licence, and special research investigations at the request of recognised research workers with the approval of the Ministry of Health. There is a similar increase in the home visits to school children. A slight decrease is recorded in the home visiting of children aged 1 to 5 years.

There was an increase of just over 2,000 home visits by Health Visitors and School Nurses during 1956, over the previous year. With their other work of attendance at Child Welfare Centres, School medical inspections, and School Clinics, the Health Visitors are becoming overburdened, and some part of their work is likely to suffer.

Health Education. Medical Officers, Public Health Nurses, and Public Health Inspectors approach every detail of their work with the fundamental principle of prevention in mind. In the long run education is the most effective form of prevention. All the work of the Department therefore can be said to be educational.

In addition to this, practical and probably most effective health education is carried out as follows :—

- (1) Addresses and lectures to Parent Teacher Associations, Townswomen's Guilds, etc., by Medical Officers, Health Visitors and Public Health Inspectors.
- (2) Courses in food hygiene given to School Canteen Staffs by Public Health Inspectors.
- (3) A routine scheme of short talks at Child Welfare Centres by Health Visitors and other selected lecturers.
- (4) Mothercraft—evening classes conducted by a Medical Officer and Health Visitor, and instruction to mothers attending the Ante-natal Clinic.

HOME NURSING

The Bath District Nursing Association continues to provide this service, as agent for the Local Health Authority, which has taken over the buildings at 44/45 Rivers Street, and is responsible for the cost of the service.

In addition to the Superintendent and her Deputy, 10 full time and 2 part time nurses were employed at the end of the year. Two of the full time nurses are Enrolled Assistants.

The Superintendent and Deputy with one nurse and one midwife are resident at Rivers Street, and other nurses and midwives live in their own homes. There is daily personal contact between the Superintendent and nurses, while the Superintendent communicates as necessary with the Health Department either personally or by telephone.

During 1956 the nurses paid 31,025 visits to 1,354 patients. (During 1955 the numbers were 29,115 visits to 1,534 patients). There has thus been no change in the total volume of work.

Of the total number of patients attended, 878 were to patients over the age of 65 years, involving a total of 22,187 visits. As with the Home Help Service, this section of patients represents about 70% of the total.

An average of 22.9 visits were made to each patient during the year, with tuberculous patients requiring the highest number of visits, viz. 37.8. Many of these visits are for the purpose of giving injections, and this work also involves the home nurses in numerous visits to diabetics, etc.

The new syllabus of training for State Registered Nurses requires a course of four lectures by the Medical Officer of Health or a practising Health Visitor. During the year two such courses were given at the Royal United Hospital.

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION.

Protection is offered against Smallpox, Diphtheria and Whooping Cough either through the family doctor or at Infant Welfare Centres.

Parents are impressed with the need to protect their children by immunisation and vaccination, through personal contact by the Health Visitors at home or in the child welfare clinics; by Press and poster publicity in conjunction with national campaigns arranged by the Ministry of Health; and, in the case of diphtheria immunisation, by reminders in the form of birthday cards at one year of age. A record is kept of all unimmunised and un-vaccinated infants, and at quarterly intervals, when protection is overdue, their names and addresses are sent to the Family Doctor concerned to enlist his support. Letters stressing the need for renewed protection against diphtheria are sent to the parents of all children on the occasion of their first medical examination in school, and immunisation is often carried out in the school concerned at the end of a routine visit.

Diphtheria Immunisation. The number of children immunised for the first time, again fell from 967 in 1955 to 917 in 1956. The number who received reinforcing injections was 569 as compared with 747 for the previous year.

The following table shows the state of immunisation as far as Bath children are concerned, at the end of 1956:—

	No. Immunised.	Estimated Child Population
Under 1 year	220	1,030
1 to 4 years	2,866	4,370
5 to 14 years	8,717	10,800
	<hr/> 11,803	<hr/> 16,200

Of the total number of children who have been immunised against diphtheria, 4,854 received their injections more than five years ago, and their immunity against the disease must be regarded as doubtful. Thus although 72.9% of the child population in Bath have been dealt with at some time or other, only 42.9% were immunised or had re-inforcing injections during the past five years. Almost 30% of our children remain completely unprotected despite the efforts of persuasion both nationally and locally. This is a serious situation and the parents of young children should realise that so long as so many children remain unprotected there is the danger that diphtheria might again become a serious menace. The present generation of young parents appear to have forgotten how deadly this disease can be.

For the third year in succession, no cases of diphtheria were notified in Bath, and the number of cases notified during 1956 in England and Wales fell to 63. Parents must be urged continually to have their children immunised if the present state of affairs is to be maintained. Every provision for immunisation is available, either through the family doctor or the Local Authority Clinics and parents who fail to have their children protected, do so, in the majority of cases, because they either fail to realise the danger, or are too inert to make use of the facilities. It is too late and unwise to immunise children during an epidemic, therefore they should be protected now while there is no evidence of the organism in the community.

Vaccination. Every effort is still made to persuade mothers to have their children vaccinated against smallpox, either at the Infant Welfare Clinics or by the family doctor, and during 1956, 532 persons received primary vaccination including 447 under one year, and there were 128 re-vaccinations. (514 and 140 in 1955).

The number of children born in the area in the 12 months ended 30th June, 1956 was approximately 1,019 of whom 447 were vaccinated during 1956, or 44%. This is somewhat above the National average, but the speed of modern air travel makes it possible for acute cases of smallpox to develop in this Country, and the poorly protected state of the community is then likely to be dangerous.

B.C.G. Vaccination. See page 27.

Whooping Cough Immunisation. The combined whooping cough and diphtheria antigen is used as a routine in the majority of cases immunised through the Authority's child welfare clinics, and a number of General Practitioners taking part in the Council's scheme for immunisation and vaccination, adopt a similar procedure.

Poliomyelitis Vaccination. The Council co-operated with the Ministry of Health in the initiation of the scheme for vaccination against poliomyelitis, but in view of the fact that it was known that supplies of the vaccine would be limited, the project was not over stressed. 602 children born between the years 1947 and 1954 were registered for vaccination, and of this number 60 received the full course of injections. No unusual reactions were reported in any of these cases.

PROVISION OF AMBULANCE SERVICES.

Ambulance Service. The City Fire and Ambulance Services are combined under the immediate control of the Chief Officer of the Fire Brigade. Reference is made to the Medical Officer of Health when a medical decision is required. By arrangement with the Counties of Somerset and Gloucester certain parts of those counties surrounding the City are also served.

The Chief Officer of the Fire Brigade and Ambulance Service reports as follows :—

“The vehicle establishment has remained static at seven ambulances and three sitting case cars. No new vehicles were bought in 1956. The personnel establishment was increased in July 1956 by the appointment of three additional firemen/ambulancemen. No increased availability of personnel has resulted from this increase as it coincided with the introduction of the 56 hr. week for firemen instead of the 60 hr. week previously in operation.

The number of patients carried and miles travelled, is fairly consistent with the figures for 1954 and 1955 which appears to confirm the view expressed in the last report that the peak was reached in 1954 and the demand should now remain fairly constant. A tendency for greater specialisation on the part of hospitals may, however, result in more inter hospital transport. Greater use has been made of the hospital car service, mainly through non availability of our own cars through maintenance requirements or shortage of personnel.

The use of wireless control continues to give excellent results both in effecting economy by reducing empty mileage and by promoting efficiency. At the more serious road accidents where additional assistance has been required, it has been speedily summoned by radio. As the more serious accidents are usually outside the City limits where telephones are widely spaced, this has proved a most valuable asset. All ambulances now carry a resuscitator and as blood transfusions are sometimes required during inter hospital journeys, a suitable type of bottle holder has been obtained and fitted. Probably because of joint control, ambulance crews never fail to summon fire brigade assistance if it is required at serious accidents.

As in previous years we are most grateful to our voluntary escorts who have travelled many hundreds of miles escorting patients transported by rail, and they in turn have received every assistance from the staffs of British Railways. The Hospital Car Service drivers have given their usual cheerful service, stepping in at short notice to carry peak loads. The voluntary ambulance services of the British Red Cross and the St. John Ambulance Service by their attendance at public functions and sports meetings have, as in previous years, saved many demands upon the local authority service.”

TABLE OF AMBULANCE JOURNEYS, MILEAGE, Etc.
1956 compared with previous years.

		(1) Total Journeys	(2) Patients carried	(3) Accidents (included in 1)	(4) Total Mileage
City Ambulances and Cars	1950	14,882	15,697	1,021	127,775
	1951	21,898	22,938	977	138,489
	1952	23,066	24,197	1,044	140,590
	1953	25,558	26,640	1,150	140,130
	1954	28,014	29,032	1,188	130,759
	1955	23,644	27,765	1,287	133,741
	1956	21,254	28,801	1,306	129,511
St. John & B.R.C.S. Ambulances	1950	5	6	—	247
	1951	31	43	—	759
	1952	10	16	—	204
	1953	—	—	—	—
	1954	—	—	—	—
	1955	—	—	—	—
	1956	—	—	—	—
Hospital Car Service	1950	4,139	4,523	—	45,144
	1951	542	862	—	9,833
	1952	356	717	—	8,167
	1953	244	501	—	7,780
	1954	492	883	—	10,089
	1955	562	948	—	13,136
	1956	624	1,488	—	18,457

DOMESTIC HELP

The Domestic Help Service has grown into a most valuable part of the National Health Service and demands continue to increase year by year. The Service commenced in Bath in 1949 and during that year 140 separate households were given assistance, since when the number has risen steadily to a total of 467 households helped in 1956. Of this number, no less than 260 represented households where there was chronic sickness, including aged and infirm persons, and it is in this direction that the main demand for the services of home helps falls.

The increasing number of old people in our population is a national problem, but it is even more acute in Bath where the proportion of elderly is somewhat higher than the average for the country as a whole. With the demands upon hospital and hostel accommodation it is obvious that the need for the services of the home help is going to increase year by year, and by delaying and even preventing the need for institutional accommodation at much greater expense to the community, this service is performing a most important function. Similarly, it is possible

for elderly patients to be discharged from hospital to home earlier than would otherwise be possible because the domiciliary services of the local authority are available.

The charge for the services of the home help is made in accordance with a scale approved by the City Council. The majority of the people assisted are in receipt of pensions or National Assistance; to these the service is provided without charge. The amount recovered by way of charges represents little more than 7% of the total cost of the service.

Whenever help is requested, medical confirmation of the need is obtained, and each application is approved by the Medical Officer. Where help is required for an extended period, the case is reviewed by the Organiser. In many cases of chronic sickness of course, the help continues for very long periods. These cases become very dependent upon the individual home help, and the latter show many acts of kindly interest to those they serve outside the strict interpretation of their duties. At the end of the year 9 full-time and 40 part-time home helps were employed by the authority. One full-time home help is engaged solely in attending to the needs of old people living in the Old Peoples' Bungalows on the Twerton Housing Estate.

The home helps meet together regularly, thus giving an opportunity for the Organiser to discuss current problems with a general interchange of helpful information.

During 1956, of the 467 individual households helped, 11 homes needed assistance because of tuberculosis, 28 during the lying-in period and 428 because of acute or chronic illness, young children or aged persons in the home.

PREVENTION OF ILLNESS, CARE AND AFTER CARE. TUBERCULOSIS.

Administration.

The Health Services Sub-Committee deals with all matters concerning Tuberculosis, acting through the Medical Officer of Health. A full-time Health Visitor is employed, and by arrangement with the Regional Hospital Board one of the Chest Physicians gives one eleventh of his time to the Local Authority to give Clinical advice and B.C.G. Vaccination. (The Local Authority paying an equivalent proportion of the salary).

The incidence of tuberculosis in the City is shown by notifications received from General Practitioners and the Chest Physicians. The number of notified cases, and deaths from tuberculosis, were the lowest recorded in Bath, since records have been kept.

Of the 49 cases notified, 45 were cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis and 4 Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis. Among the pulmonary cases, 27 were males and 18 females, and of these only 10 males and 10 females were under 35 years of age. There were 4 deaths from pulmonary and 1 from other forms of tuberculosis during 1956. (7 and 1 in 1955).

Despite the fact that the number of deaths from tuberculosis continues to fall year by year, largely due to improved forms of treatment, there still remains within the community a pool of unknown and infectious cases, so that new notifications of the disease have shown a much slower decline.

Prevention. In its efforts to reduce the spread of infection, much of the time of the Health Department is aimed at improving the living and working conditions of the people, and supervising the manufacture, preparation and sale of food, particularly milk and meat.

All milk sold in Bath is heat treated or tuberculin tested, and all meat is inspected before it is offered for sale to the public.

Further surveys by the Mass Radiography Service were carried out in Bath during the year, and a number of firms, and pupils and staff from the senior schools and training colleges, as well as the general public, participated. The following is a summary of the results:—

				Males	Females	Total
No. of Miniature Films	...	...	...	5846	5986	11832
Recalled for large Films	...	...	...	198	155	353
				<hr/>		
Normal	...	...	...	102	87	189
Significant	...	...	...	78	50	128
Did not attend	...	...	...	3	2	5
Under observation	...	...	...	15	16	31
<hr/>						
Analysis of Significant Cases:—						
Non-Tuberculous	...	...	...	57	23	80
Tuberculous:—						
Inactive	...	...	...	18	20	38
Active	...	...	...	1	—	1

All contacts of known cases of tuberculosis are examined by X-ray, and arrangements are made for special groups of persons who have been at risk to attend at the Radiography Department of the Manor Hospital. All staff, including teachers, employed by the Local Authority are examined by X-ray on appointment, and those in contact with children are examined annually. In all this work, the Department is in closest touch with the Chest Physician.

132 children known to be exposed to infection were examined by the Chest Physician. After preliminary Mantoux test, 15 were found to have an acquired immunity, and the remaining 117 susceptible children were given artificial immunity by B.C.G. vaccination.

Ministry approval has been given to a scheme for the B.C.G. vaccination of school children, and it is hoped that this will be in operation next year.

Care and After Care of Patients. Hospital accommodation for tuberculous patients is provided at the City Isolation Hospital and Winsley Chest Hospital, and

there is no undue waiting period for admission. Special cases requiring operative treatment are admitted to Frenchay Hospital, Bristol.

Some patients are able to continue treatment at home, and when necessary the District Nurses administer drugs which have to be given by injection under the instructions of the Chest Physician and family doctor.

Several open air wooden chalets are available for erection in the patient's garden. They are lent to suitable cases on the recommendation of the Chest Physician through the Local Authority.

During 1956, 98 necessitous patients were provided with a supply of milk at the Council's expense.

The Chest Clinic is held at the Manor Hospital on three afternoons each week under the direction of the Chest Physician, and the City's Tuberculosis Health Visitor attends each session. This Visitor made 1,476 visits to the homes of tuberculous patients during the year, and much of her time is devoted to assisting the family in connection with financial and other matters; ensuring that the instructions of the Chest Physician are observed; and providing some diversional occupation for patients unable to work. She is also responsible for the follow-up of possible contacts, and persuading them to attend for examination and X-ray.

Patients referred to Chest Clinic for examination	1501
Found tuberculous	45
Contacts examined	201
Found tuberculous	6
Total attendances, including above	3455

The Bath T B. After-Care Committee continued to be responsible for the running of a Club for tuberculous patients held weekly at the Welfare Department, 12 Charlotte Street. Social and recreational provision is made for those who attend, and instruction is given in occupational therapy. Christmas gifts were sent to a number of patients through the Committee, which receives an annual grant of £50 from the City Council.

Illness in General.

The prevention of illness and the promotion of good health is the aim of the Public Health Department, and its efforts in this direction involve the various sections of the Department working as a team, in co-operation with other local authority departments and outside bodies.

The work is largely a matter of health education in conjunction with efforts to improve the living and working conditions of the people.

The District Public Health Inspectors give close attention to all matters relating to food production and sale, and their work in ensuring that the public receive safe food, prepared and sold in satisfactory conditions, is of vital importance in the prevention of illness. The Chief

Public Health Inspector gives full details of this part of his work in his section of this Report.

In matters relating to housing there is close co-operation with the Housing Manager, the Medical Officer of Health and the Chief Public Health Inspector, who advise the former in cases where applicants for Council accommodation have a genuine claim on health or sanitary grounds. In addition much of the work of the Sanitary Department is devoted to the inspection of properties where there are contraventions of the Public Health Acts, and in matters relating to the demolition and clearance of slum property.

Cases of infectious illness are visited by the District Public Health Inspectors, or where appropriate, by the Health Visitors, and necessary advice given to prevent the spread of infection. By arrangement with the Hospital Management Committee, the Authority have facilities at the Manor Hospital for the steam disinfection of clothing, bedding, etc., and for the cleansing of persons suffering from verminous or contagious skin conditions.

Equipment required for the nursing of patients in their own homes is available on loan through the District Nurses, or through the British Red Cross Society, acting as agents for the Local Authority. A deposit is charged for the item loaned, which is refunded on the return of the article in good condition. The articles provided comprise such things as bed rests, bed pans, air rings, wheelchairs, etc. The Department is indebted to Mr. Coleman of the British Red Cross Society, who is responsible for the issue of articles through that Society.

Venereal Diseases. The general provision for treatment remained unchanged throughout the year. For details of clinics see page 35. The number of Bath patients attending the Clinics at St. Martin's Hospital and the Royal United Hospital for the first time during 1956 was 139. Of these patients, 22 were found to be suffering from syphilis, 10 from gonorrhoea, and 107 were found to have conditions which were not venereal. As in previous years the majority of the cases attending the Clinics were found on examination not to be suffering from venereal disease, although in most of these cases there had been exposure to risk of infection. In addition to the above figures, 7 Bath patients attended clinics outside the City, of whom 1 was found to be suffering from gonorrhoea.

Interpretation of the statistical reports from the Clinics specially established in the area is difficult. Many of the cases seen in the Clinics in Bath come from outside the City, and it is probable that persons infected with venereal disease go to Clinics for treatment as far as possible from their home areas.

Returns from the Clinics suggest that :—

- (1) there is no reduction in the number of persons who expose themselves to infection by promiscuous habits.
- (2) there is a decrease in the incidence of early syphilis, chiefly because the use of penicillin has curtailed the period of infectivity. This

is however not entirely satisfactory because the widespread use of penicillin may mask, without curing, an unknown number of cases. There is also evidence that a number of early cases are treated privately by General Practitioners, and are not referred to nor recorded at Clinics, which are our only source of information. Venereal disease is not a notifiable condition. Late syphilis which reveals itself by affecting the heart, nervous system, etc., cannot be estimated because it is usually treated in the general wards of a hospital.

(3) the position with regard to gonorrhoea is very much the same. Probably a still larger proportion of cases are treated privately and are not recorded.

(4) there are other types of infection associated with promiscuity, which though less serious than syphilis or gonorrhoea, are very intractable and can pursue a chronic course for many months.

The local Health Authority continues to be responsible for propaganda on the prevention of these diseases, and for the follow up of patients and contacts where requested.

Adult Orthopaedic Clinic. The follow up Clinic arranged for adults who had during childhood been treated for various orthopaedic defects is held in the Health Department by arrangement with the Hospital Management Committee. 19 individual patients attended during the year.

Laboratory Work. The work of the Health Department is greatly assisted by the facilities offered by the Area Laboratory at St. Martin's Hospital, and the Public Health Laboratory at the Manor Hospital. The former is used mainly in connection with blood examinations from expectant mothers referred from the Antenatal Clinics, while the Public Health Laboratory deals with numerous specimens submitted not only by the Health Department, but by the Private Practitioners in connection with infectious disease, food poisoning, dysentery, etc. The assistance rendered to the Department by the Directors and Staff of both Laboratories is much appreciated.

For details of analyses of food and drugs, milk, ice cream and water carried out by the City Analyst and the Public Health Laboratory, see pages 53-56 and 69-73.

CANCER.

Cancer is not a disease which must be notified, and information on the prevalence within the City has always been obtained from the number of deaths due to this cause.

Deaths from Cancer in Bath.

Site	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956
Stomach	28	12	46	31	28	28	35
Lung and Bronchus	16	22	27	30	25	28	32
Breast	21	18	13	17	18	22	19
Uterus	3	5	5	6	10	6	9
Other sites	84	93	106	94	84	107	102
Total	152	150	197	178	165	191	197

There appears to have been a slight increase in the number of deaths, the rate per 1,000 of the population being 2.47, which is approximately the same as for the Country as a whole.

It may be significant that deaths due to cancer of the lung and bronchus have shown a steady increase, and have doubled in six years. The incidence and increase has been almost entirely among males.

The Cancer Records Bureau now is able to register over 90% of cases of cancer discovered in hospitals or by General Practitioners, and the following table shows significant information.

Cancer Records Bureau Bath Registrations.

	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956
(a) New cases	184	216	254	236	238	251
(b) Died during year	79	105	96	103	120	115
(c) Cases not registered who died during year	—	—	—	—	52	72
(d) Cases too advanced for treatment. (Palliative care and home nursing only)	53	79	72	78	63	72
(e) Cancer of Breast:—						
(i) alive after 5 years	—	—	36%	37%	41%	40%
(ii) delayed consultation with Doctor for over 12 months...	—	—	37%	32%	25%	20%
(iii) In advanced stage when presented at hospital... ..	—	—	26%	23%	18%	32%
(f) All cases of Cancer (excluding cancer of skin) alive after 5 years	46%	23%	24%	26%	30%	30%

All modern facilities for the treatment of cancer are available in the City or the Region, and it is a matter for concern that a large number of cases delayed seeking advice until the condition was too far advanced for curative treatment. In particular, cancer of the breast, a condition which may be discovered in the early stage, and is amenable to treatment, shows that 32% of cases were in an advanced stage when they were first seen at hospital. The result of "follow-up" of cases treated and registered five years ago shows that 40% of cases of breast cancer are alive without sign of recurrence.

Education of the public in the matter of cancer is a delicate subject because of fear of the disease itself and fear of a diagnosis of cancer, and the treatment that may be involved. In giving addresses to public meetings, emphasis is therefore laid on the fact that cancer can be cured if discovered early.

The most distressing cases which engender fear in others are the late cases which are beyond treatment. Because of the need for beds for cases with a prospect of cure, the late cases have, all too frequently, to be discharged from hospital. District Nurses attended 89 such cases in their homes, of whom 31 died, and 15 were admitted to chronic sick beds in hospitals or nursing homes. All late cases of cancer are in need of constant medical and nursing attention, and apart from the distress of the patient, the family, and particularly children, can be very much upset in such circumstances. There is urgent need for a small number of beds (probably six would meet it), to which cases of cancer in the terminal stages could be removed.

HANDICAPPED PERSONS.

The care of handicapped persons of all types is the responsibility of the Welfare Committee.

1. Blind Persons.

The Chief Welfare Officer is responsible for the registration and the care of blind persons. At the end of 1956 there were 232 persons registered as blind and 29 as partially sighted. 10 persons were recommended for treatment of cataract, either medical, surgical or optical. Of these it was found on follow up that 7 received treatment during the year. 7 cases of glaucoma were registered and treatment was advised in two cases. There were no cases of retrolental fibroplasia. 15 other blind persons were registered during the year for whom treatment was advised in the case of 5, and on follow up all were found to have been treated. For 10 other persons no treatment was advised.

FOLLOW-UP OF REGISTERED BLIND AND PARTIALLY SIGHTED PERSONS.

	Cause of Disability			
	Cataract	Glaucoma	Retrolental Fibroplasia	Others
(i) Number of cases registered during the year in respect of which para. 7(c) of Form B.D.8 recommends:-				
(a) No treatment	8	5	—	10
(b) Treatment (medical, surgical or optical).	10	2	—	5
(ii) Number of cases at (i) (b) above which on follow-up action have received treatment.	7	2	—	5

2. Deaf and Dumb.

The Somerset Diocesan Mission to the Deaf cares for deaf and hard of hearing persons over the age of 16 in this area on an agency basis. The number of persons registered at the end of 1956 was 214.

3. Epileptics and Spastics.

There can be no correct information as to the number of epileptic or spastic adults in the community as neither of these conditions are notifiable. The Welfare Committee is responsible for the care of these handicapped persons through the Welfare Officer. At the end of 1956 there were 26 epileptic adults and 9 adults suffering from spastic paraplegia on the Register of Handicapped Persons in this City. The treatment of epileptics is in the hands of General Practitioners and no special cases were brought to the notice of the Authority during the year. There is no special provision for the care and education of persons suffering from spastic paraplegia, except that treatment facilities are available at

the Spa Bathing Establishment where the hot pool is found to be exceedingly successful in relaxing and educating spastic muscles. More accurate knowledge is, of course, available with regard to children of school age and under, who suffer from epilepsy or spastic paraplegia. Details are given on page 96 of my report as Principal School Medical Officer.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES

DAYS AND TIMES OF ATTENDANCE. DEC., 1956

	See also page	Monday	Tuesday	We'n'day	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Infant Welfare Centres :							
*Blue Coat House ...	14		2.30—4			2.30—4	
Walcot ...	"			2.30—4			
Oldfield Park ...	"			2.30—4			
Southdown ...	"	2.30—4					
Odd Down ...	"		2.30—4				
Weston ...	"	2.30—4					
Twerton ...	"				2.30—4		
Ante-Natal Clinics :							
45 Rivers Street ...	"			10—12			
Post-Natal :							
45 Rivers Street ...	15		10—11.30	(1st Tuesday)			...
*Maternity & Child Welfare							
Dental Clinic ...	16	By appointment					
Tuberculosis—							
Chest Clinic, Manor Hos.	28	2—4			2—4	2—4	
Artificial Sunlight Treatment ...	—	...	...	By appointment			
Venereal Diseases							
Men (R.U.H.) ...	29					5—6.30	5—6.30
Women (R.U.H.) ...	...		5—6.30			2.30	
Women (St. Martin's)	...		2 p.m.				
Men (St. Martin's) ..	...		2 p.m.				
School Clinics —							
Inspection :							
*Blue Coat House ...	...					9.30—12	
†Moorlands Inf. Sch. ...	...		9.30—12	(monthly	1st Tues.)		
†Fosseway Inf. & Jnr. ...	...			9.30—11.30	(monthly	1st Wed.)	
†St. Luke's Prim. ...	...			9.30—11.30	(monthly	3rd Wed.)	
†City of Bath Boys' ...	...			9.30—12	fortnightly	2nd & 4th Wed.)	
†Southdown Jnr. ...	...		9.30—12	(monthly	2nd Tues.)		
Eye Infirmary ...	...	9.30		2.0			
*Dental ...	...	9.30—5	9.30—5	9.30—5	9.30—5	9.30—5	10—12
Ear, Nose and Throat :							
St. Martin's Hospital ...	...				9.15†	By appointment	
Minor Ailments Clinic							
*Blue Coat House ..	...	9.30—12		9.30—12		9.30—12	9.30—12
Other Schools	...						
see Inspection above	...						
*Orthopædic							
After-Care Clinic ..	...			10—12 & 2—4	10—12 & 2—4		
Orthopædic Hospital	...						
Massage ..	...	Daily	by	appointment.		...	...
Ultra-Violet rays	...	By appointment					

* These Clinics are held at Blue Coat House † 2nd & 4th Thursdays of Month

† School Nurse attends weekly

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE.

Administration. There were no changes in the Local Authority's administrative arrangements in connection with the Mental Health Service as set out in my Report for 1954.

Care of Mental Defectives. During the year, 119 mentally defective persons were supervised in their own homes by Mental Health Officers. 31 of these persons attended the Occupation Centre daily.

An average of about 10 female defectives on licence from various Hospitals to places of employment in the City were supervised by Health Visitors. The officers of the Health Department made 315 visits to the homes for supervisory reasons, and supplied to the Hospital Management Committees, 35 special reports concerning progress, holiday leave, etc.

New cases were ascertained during the year as follows:—

	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Under the Education Act, 1944.			
(a) Section 57 (3)	2	3	5
(b) Section 57 (5)	—	2	2
From other sources	4	1	5

These cases were dealt with as follows:—

Admitted to Institutions	1	—	1
Placed under Guardianship	—	—	—
Placed under Supervision	5	6	11

Cases on Register at end of the year:—

In Institutions (including cases on licence)	66	51	117
Under Guardianship	—	1	1
Under Voluntary supervision	2	—	2
Under Statutory supervision	67	52	119
	<hr/> 135	<hr/> 104	<hr/> 239
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

At the end of the year three male patients were awaiting admission to an Institution.

Under the provisions of Ministry of Health Circular 5/52, 6 male and 1 female patients were admitted for short periods to Institutions in order to give their families a brief relief from their care.

One Petition for an Order under Section 5 of the Mental Deficiency Act was presented, and one patient was admitted to an Institution under Section 8 at the instance of the Court.

Occupation Centre. The number of patients attending the Occupation Centre at Millbrook Place, remained much the same as in the previous year. At the end of 1956, 31 of our supervision cases were in attendance, and in addition there were 5 cases from the area of the Somerset County Council.

The Centre provides opportunities for speech and sense training, in addition to the normal occupational work, such as needlework, leatherwork and rug making. This handwork has reached a high standard under the sympathetic guidance of the Supervisor and her staff. At the end of the year a display and sale of the work made was arranged, and a sum of nearly £300 was realised. The Mayor and other members of the City Council attended the sale, and there was an entertainment by the children.

Mid-day meals are provided at the Centre through the School Meals Service, and car transport is provided for the majority of those attending.

Social activities in connection with the Centre included a Christmas Party, a visit to the local Pantomime, and a coach trip to the seaside during the summer. The link between the Centre and the parents of children attending, has been strengthened by the recent formation of an affiliated branch to the National Society for Mentally Handicapped Children.

Lunacy and Mental Treatment. The number of cases dealt with under the Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts during 1956 was as follows. (1955 figures are shown in brackets):—

	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Admitted on 3 Day Order	73	114	187 (177)
Admitted on 14 Day Order	3	1	4 (7)
Admitted Summary Reception Order	11	29	40 (18)
Admitted Temporary Order	9	12	21 (23)
Admitted Voluntary	44	80	124 (106)

Of the patients certified, 35 were dealt with after initial action under sections 20 and 21, and 5 direct.

14 patients under temporary order were dealt with after action under section 20, and 7 admitted direct.

Of the voluntary patients, 74 (25 male and 49 female) were dealt with after action under sections 20 and 21; and 50 (19 male and 31 female) direct.

Of the 40 patients certified, 10 were over the age of 65, and of the 21 temporary patients, 14 were over the age of 65, including 3 over 80, and one over 90 years of age.

During the course of the year, 253 cases were brought to the notice of the Mental Health Officers, and of this number it is interesting to note that in only 40 instances was it necessary for the patient to be certified under the Lunacy Act. In all the other cases it was possible, either to arrange hospital treatment without certification, or discharge to the patient's own home after an initial period of observation.

In addition 31 cases were investigated during the year where no action was taken under the Acts, and advice and support was given on numerous occasions to old cases.

The Psychiatric Social Worker who is employed jointly with the Mendip Hospital Management Committee, reports as follows :—

One hundred and thirty-nine cases were referred to the Psychiatric Social Worker in 1956. In addition 58 referred during the previous 18 months continued to receive attention. The cases were referred from the following sources :—

	1956	1955
Out-patient Department (one session weekly at St. Martin's and Royal United Hospital)	17	34
Observation Ward, St. Martin's	18	35
Weston Lodge Neurosis Unit	11	29
Mendip Hospital	57	42
Community Care	36	33

After-care

Twenty-three cases were referred for after-care during 1956 and 19 previously referred continued to receive help.

A small number of those unable to find employment attended the Royal United Hospital Occupational Therapy Department and one patient spent six weeks at the Bristol Industrial Rehabilitation Centre.

There is still a great need for the provision of useful occupation for patients who are unemployable, especially the younger age groups.

Only a small proportion of patients leaving hospital are referred to the Psychiatric Social Worker for after-care. Many cases leave hospital sufficiently recovered to return to their former jobs; others return to homes where relatives are well-qualified to help the patients re-establish themselves in the community. After-care is not a form of supervision, nor of friendly visiting (this latter function is very adequately undertaken by members of voluntary societies). It is a means of helping a mentally sick person to settle back into the community and of helping their relatives (who may themselves be aged or in poor mental health) deal with the problems that arise after the patient has left hospital. This may involve visiting the home several times a week to begin with in order to help the patient overcome his difficulties in adjusting himself, and to encourage him to gradually assume responsibilities.

For many patients the period immediately after leaving hospital where they lead a sheltered existence, is the most difficult. It is important to help them recover confidence in themselves by encouraging them to

tackle small tasks until they can deal with everyday problems. In some cases adjustment can be made in the material or emotional environment of the home but where this is not possible it is a help to both patient and relative to be able to discuss at fairly regular intervals with the Psychiatric Social Worker, their fears and personal problems.

In addition to the cases helped by the Psychiatric Social Worker, every attempt is made to encourage other agencies and clubs to take an interest in patients recently discharged from hospital who are sufficiently recovered to take part in normal group activities.

Community Care

The number of cases referred directly from the Community has increased and there is a greater awareness in the community of the importance of seeking help at an early stage of the breakdown. At the same time the limitations of psychiatric treatment have to be stressed since there is a tendency in the community to-day to regard psychiatric treatment as a last resort for all social problems, rather than as an effective way of helping a certain type of case.

Educational

During the year the Psychiatric Social Worker gave talks on subjects relating to emotional development in young children and adolescents, the Mental Health Services, and community care for the mentally ill, to groups of young wives, social workers and students in Bath. In addition a report on the developments of the work in Bath (of special interest since so few joint appointments have been made) was given to the Mental Health Course, London University and Refresher Course for Mental Health Workers at Dillington House, Ilminster.

During the year the Psychiatric Social Worker took three students from the Social Science Department, University of Bristol, two for two weeks of observation visits, and the second for six weeks of supervised casework.

The Psychiatric Social Worker also works for at least one session each week in the Child Guidance Centre. This appointment of a Psychiatric Social Worker was made originally with the idea that she would be occupied mainly with the care of persons showing signs of mental illness, and the after-care of those who had been discharged from mental hospitals. Possibly however the appointment will prove to be of greatest value in the field of prevention. Much mental illness probably starts in childhood, and Health Visitors are faced increasingly with problems of child training which if neglected may develop into mental illness in adult life. One of the most valuable advantages therefore of the appointment of a Psychiatric Social Worker is that she is available for consultation by Health Visitors, the Children's Officer and others.

Voluntary Supervision of School Leavers

This scheme, introduced in 1954, and reported upon in my Report for 1955, continued throughout the year.

Fifty-seven new cases were referred to the Visitor, and each home received an initial visit, with 219 follow-up visits to these homes and the homes of old cases. There were 51 ineffective visits, and in only 2 instances were the parents unco-operative.

During 1956, 7 of the cases under supervision were brought before the Juvenile Court (5 boys and 2 girls). In 4 instances probation was recommended, 2 were sent to Approved Schools and Training Centres, and a fine was imposed in the other case.

Since the commencement of the voluntary supervision, 11 boys and 15 girls have attended evening classes held at the Bath Technical College where they are taught English and Arithmetic. These classes are held primarily for retarded pupils. In addition, 3 girls attended classes for dressmaking, cookery and art.

Employment has been found for all but 6 cases under supervision, and of these, 2 are epileptics and unemployable, one a spastic awaiting training, and one suffering from a prolonged illness. The remaining 2 children having had frequent changes of employment since leaving school.

The total number of cases now being supervised is 185 (74 boys and 111 girls). During the year 23 cases were removed from supervision having settled down satisfactorily.

MISCELLANEOUS

Nursing and Maternity Homes Registration

		Nursing Homes only	Maternity Homes only	Combined Nursing & Maternity
Homes removed from Register	...	2	—	—
Homes added to Register	...	—	—	—
Leaving at end of year	...	8	—	2

Each Nursing or Maternity Home is visited periodically by a Medical Officer. Of the 210 beds provided by these homes, 8 were for maternity cases and the remainder for general nursing.

Nurses' Agencies Regulations, 1945

These Regulations, made by the Minister of Health in accordance with Part II of the Nurses Act, 1943, deal with the conditions under which licences may be granted by the Local Authority to persons desiring to carry on an agency for the supply of nurses. They are administered in Bath through the Health Committee.

One Agency was licensed at the end of the year.

Superannuation Examinations

The number of examinations of Council employees carried out by the medical staff, for superannuation and other purposes during 1956 was 163. In addition, 12 examinations were carried out for other authorities, and 54 candidates for Training Colleges were examined. An X-ray examination of the chest is now carried out in respect of each candidate for Council employment.

National Assistance Act

Numerous cases of aged and infirm persons living in difficult circumstances were reported to the Health Department during the year, but it was not necessary to use the powers of the National Assistance Acts.

With the co-operation of the Geriatrician, the Family Doctor and the various services provided by the Local Authority, it has been found possible to meet most of the difficulties which have arisen in connection with these old folk, and every effort is made to keep them in their own homes. There have been cases, however, where hospital care was the only answer, and the lack of beds has delayed admission.

National Blood Transfusion Service

This Service is not the responsibility of the Local Authority, but deserves the support not only of the Council, but of every Citizen.

During the year, 1,808 donors attended 17 sessions arranged by the National Blood Transfusion Service in association with the British Red Cross Society, and 1,683 bottles of blood went to Bath Hospitals. The number of donors showed a decrease on the previous year of 17.

Meteorological Observations

Daily meteorological readings are taken at the Council's enclosure at Henrietta Park. The following are notes of interest in respect of the readings taken during the year. A summary of observations is given on page 81.

RAINFALL :

The rainfall for 1956 amounted to 25.07 ins. This was 2.18 ins. less than the previous year, which was also below the ninety-year average for Bath of 30.87 ins. Measurable rainfall was recorded on 170 days, and the greatest fall in 24 hours was on 25th August, amounting to 1.54 ins. This was the wettest day since 1952.

The wettest month was January, with 4.40 ins., and the driest was February with .21 ins. This was the driest February since 1934, and May with a rainfall of only .47 ins. was the driest May for 51 years.

SUNSHINE :

Although there was less rainfall during 1956, the year did not prove to be as sunny as the previous year, and was also below the 50 year average of 1,528.6 hours. Recorded sunshine for 1956 amounted to 1,497.7 hours compared with 1,732.8 hours for 1955. The sunniest month was May with 261.3 hours, while December could provide only 18.8 hours.

TEMPERATURES :

The mean temperature for the year was 48.5°, and was well below the 55 years average of 49.9°. The thermometer reached 80° on only one occasion, namely 27th July. The lowest temperature recorded was 10.8° on 3rd February, and the minimum temperature recorded on the night of 14th June (35.9°) was the lowest June temperature for 36 years.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water Consumption

Constant Bacteriological and Chemical Analyses taken during the year show that the normal high standard of purity and quality has been maintained, due to constant and effective watchfulness.

Assistance continues to be invoked from the new Chew Valley Works of the Bristol Waterworks Company, to enable a full supply to be maintained in the City. This water cannot be mixed with the other waters owing to the layout of mains and therefore, certain districts only had the benefit of the softer water from Chew.

Neither the existing sources nor the bulk supply have any appreciable plumbo-solvency action.

With very few exceptions, all Bath houses have access, not necessarily exclusive, to a piped supply from the Corporation mains.

I am indebted to the City and Waterworks Engineer for the appended chemical and bacteriological analyses.

	Monkswood	Batheaston		Oakford	Weston	Langridge	Midford	Tucking Mill
		Upper	Lower					
BACTERIOLOGICAL								
Samples taken on 12th Dec., 1956								
Bacteria growing on Agar per ml.								
No. in 48 hrs. at 37 C. ...	1	1	2	3	0	0	2	5
No. in 72 hrs. at 22 C. ...	3	2	2	4	1	1	3	5
Coliform Organisms. Count per 100 ml.	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	3
do.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Faecal coli.	absent	0.15	0.1	0.1	0.8	0.1	0.6	absent
Free Chlorine p.p.m....								
Samples taken on 28th Nov., 1956								
Bacteria growing on Agar per ml. ...								
No. in 48 hrs. at 37 C. ...	8	3	3	12	6	7	4	7
No. in 72 hrs. at 22 C. ...	1	1	0	2	1	0	1	1
Coliform Organisms. Count per 100 ml.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Faecal Coli.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
do.	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.25	0.15	0.25	0.1
Free Chlorine p.p.m....								
CHEMICAL								
Samples taken on 21st Nov., 1956								
(Results expressed in parts per million)								
Appearance ...	clear	clear	clear	clear	clear	clear	clear	clear
Taste and Odour ...	normal	normal	normal	normal	normal	normal	normal	normal
Colour ...	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
pH Value ...	7.5	7.4	7.5	7.3	7.4	7.6	7.6	7.6
Free Chlorine ...	0.1	0.1	0.1	absent	0.15	0.15	0.2	absent
Total Solid Residue ...	400	480	340	360	320	300	380	480
Suspended matter ...	absent	absent	absent	absent	absent	absent	absent	absent
Chlorine as chloride ...	18	17	18	16	18	15	19	15
Ammoniacal Nitrogen ...	0.023	0.0016	0.0016	0.0049	0.0033	0.022	0.0099	0.023
Albuminoid Nitrogen ...	0.049	0.016	absent	0.0032	0.0016	0.0016	0.0016	0.0016
Nitrate Nitrogen ...	2.06	2.63	2.3	1.72	1.81	2.3	1.31	2.30
Nitrite Nitrogen ...	absent	absent	absent	absent	absent	absent	absent	absent
Total Alkalinity ...	204	212	210	220	240	212	252	232
Hardness: Total ...	250	294	302	310	297	253	296	284
Temporary ...	204	212	210	220	240	212	252	232
Permanent ...	46	82	92	90	57	41	44	52
Poisonous metals ...	absent	absent	absent	absent	absent	absent	absent	absent
Permanganate figure ...	0.2	0.4	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.1
Fluorine Test ...	0.048	0.038	0.063	0.108	0.18	0.09	0.108	0.103

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

An analysis of notifications received during 1956 in relation to the age and sex of the patients is given on page 84. On page 10, notifications, attack rates, of the principal diseases are summarised and the figures compared with similar ones for previous years. Further details in regard to particular diseases are given below.

Diphtheria. For the third year in succession no cases of diphtheria were notified in Bath.

Scarlet Fever. Thirty cases were notified as compared with 45 last year. This disease continues to be of a mild type and the majority of cases were nursed at home, only 5 being admitted to hospital.

Measles. Notifications numbered 106 as against 1,384 for last year.

Whooping Cough. Notifications fell from 225 in 1955 to 57. There was one death, that of a child aged five months.

Acute Poliomyelitis. Only 10 case of poliomyelitis were notified, with some form of paralysis in 2 instances. There were no deaths.

Dysentery. The number of cases notified rose from 172 in 1955 to 358 last year. This was the highest number of cases notified for many years, and was in line with the trend throughout the Country. Most of the cases notified in the first three months of the year occurred in the Southdown and Whiteway districts, following which, children attending several of the primary schools near the centre of the City were involved. In a number of instances, other children in the family were infected, and the efforts of the Health Department were aimed at preventing as far as possible, the spread of infection to other schools. This policy did appear to have some effect, although sporadic cases occurred until the middle of July. During November there was a fresh but restricted outbreak among children attending a private school.

Of the 358 cases notified, 225 occurred in children of school age, with the majority in the infant school age group. This troublesome infection appears to originate in most instances among children attending primary infant schools, with a consequent spread to other children in the home. Prompt exclusion from school of all children with symptoms appears to reduce the spread of cases, together with hand washing and cleansing routines in the schools concerned. Unfortunately the layout of the toilet facilities in a number of the older schools makes it difficult for staff to enforce the strict attention to personal hygiene which is so essential,

Food Poisoning. Nine cases of food poisoning were notified involving 12 persons. All were due to salmonella infections. It was not possible to identify any particular item of food as being the cause of any of the cases notified. In this type of case, early notification is essential to enable the Public Health Inspector to carry out his investigations for in many cases the patient is recovering and suspected food disposed of before the Health Department is advised of the outbreak.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
 (and Chief Housing Inspector)
FOR THE YEAR 1956

TO HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR AND THE ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS OF
 THE CITY OF BATH

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in presenting my twenty-first Annual Report on the administration of the City regarding environmental hygiene.

The economic situation resulted in fewer new houses being constructed than was originally anticipated and consequently it became necessary to defer action in respect of many occupied houses which were unfit for human habitation or overcrowded. It was again evident that owners of tenanted houses were reluctant to take advantage of improvement grants.

The Clean Air Act received Royal Assent and although some of its provisions will not come into operation for some time, preliminary consideration was given to those parts which became operative, particularly that in respect of smoke control areas.

It is again pleasing to report considerable improvement in the preparation, manufacture, storage, service and exposure of food for sale. Prejudice against many old-fashioned practices are gradually disappearing, the public are being more "choosy" and proprietors of food premises appreciate that clean practices attract more customers. The extent of food adulteration was again low but the need for careful watch for metallic contamination of certain tinned foods was evident. Only nine cases of food poisoning were notified officially compared with twelve in the preceding year.

Meat inspection in the slaughterhouses again continued to be an onerous duty involving attendance at slaughterhouses during late evenings and on Saturday afternoons and Sundays. It appears likely that for some time to come this will continue. In the first place the Government seem to be reluctant to introduce legislation to restrict hours of slaughtering and the traders themselves show little intention of altering the age old practice of slaughtering just when they feel inclined. The problem was not made less easy by staff shortages. After advertising for over a year the services of another Inspector were secured when Mr. W. E. Foster (Birkenhead) accepted the position of District Public Health Inspector and commenced duties in July, 1956. (He has since left the service of the Corporation as also has Mr. R. C. Decent, who was appointed in July, 1955).

Nearly thirty thousand animals were slaughtered and the amount of food condemned including meat, exceeded 29 tons. These figures give some indication not only of the vast amount of work entailed in meat and food inspection, often under hazardous conditions, but also of the responsibility which rests upon those who have to decide whether or not certain food is fit for human consumption.

Further evidence of the special attention given to food supplies is shown by the large number of samples of water, milk, ice-cream and various foods submitted for chemical, bacteriological or pathological examination in order to ascertain the quality or fitness for consumption of such foods.

On the whole conditions in factories, shops, etc., with regard to heating, lighting, drainage, etc., were satisfactory.

Duties in connection with rodent control were again on a wide scale and as in the previous eleven years, two maintenance treatments of sewers were carried out.

My thanks are extended to the Chairman and members of the Health and Housing Committees for their continued support, and to Dr. Weston and all members of the staff for their co-operation.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

ALBERT TYLER,

*Chief Public Health Inspector,
Chief Housing Inspector.*

Bath, July, 1957.

SECTION I.

HOUSING.

New Housing Accommodation :

Number of new houses and flats completed by the Local Authority during the year 1956:—

Two bedroom dwellings	...	...	...	13
Three bedroom dwellings	...	...	...	18
Two bedroom flats or maisonettes	...	...	...	39
Three bedroom flats or maisonettes	...	...	...	3
Bed sitting-room flats	...	...	...	10
				<hr/> 83

In addition 3 Georgian houses were converted into flats or maisonettes:—

15, Circus:

3 Bedroom flats	...	...	...	2
2 Bedroom flats	...	...	...	1

12, Circus:

2 Bedroom flats	...	...	...	3
1 Bedroom flat	...	...	...	1

18, Lansdown Crescent:

3 Bedroom maisonette	...	...	...	1
2 Bedroom flats	...	...	...	3

11

The number of houses completed by private enterprise totalled 186.

Clearance Areas :

Pre War schemes : Fourteen houses included in clearance areas confirmed before 1939 had not been demolished at 31.12.56.

Post War schemes :

Snow Hill Area No. 1 : Of the 131 houses included in the area 123 have been demolished. 4 of the remaining 8 houses were still occupied at 31.12.56.

Snow Hill Area No. 2 : Of the 76 houses included in the area none had been demolished at 31.12.56. 48 of these houses were still occupied at that date.

Calton Road : An official representation in respect of the first part of the proposed Calton Road Re-development Scheme was submitted to the Housing Committee in July, 1956, but owing to the economic situation further consideration was deferred.

Individual unfit houses :

- (a) Houses repaired—Section 9, Housing Act, 1936 :
 4, Westmoreland Place East,
 43, King Edward Road, 2
- (b) Demolition Orders served—Section 11, Housing Act, 1936 :
 35, 36, 37, High Street, Weston,
 16, Northampton Buildings, 4
- (c) Undertakings accepted in lieu of Demolition Orders
 (Formal procedure):
 1, St. James Street South,
 9, Wine Street,
 133, High Street, Weston,
 33, Morford Street,
 Portland Cottage, High Street, Lansdown,
 1, Kirkham Buildings, Bathwick, 6
- (d) Houses closed under Section 10, Local Government
 (Misc. Prov.) Act, 1953 :
 11, Monmouth Place,
 4, Lampards Buildings,
 1, 2, Clarence Place, Walcot,
 7, Mount Pleasant, Lansdown,
 1, Mount Beacon Row, 6
- (e) Houses demolished following formal or informal action :
 4, 5, The Island,
 7, 8, 9, 18, London Place,
 1, 2, 3, 4, Skrines Place,
 2, Budbrook Place,
 59, Calton Road 12
- (f) Houses in respect of which offers of work were accepted
 following formal procedure :
 15, Lambridge Street,
 41, High Street, Weston, 2
- (g) Basements or parts of buildings in respect of which
 Closing Orders were made—Section 12, Housing Act, 1936 :
 32, Northampton Street,
 12, Brock Street, 2

(h) Basements Closed on Undertaking in lieu of Closing Order :

Craiglands, Bloomfield Road,					
22, St. James' Square,					
99, Sydney Mews,					
4, Queens Parade	...	...	...	...	4

During the past eleven years approximately 370 unfit houses have been demolished and a further 150 closed in lieu of Demolition. During the same period 227 basements have been closed.

Housing Act, 1949 :

(a) Advances under Section 4 :

Reports on the condition of the properties were submitted in respect of 162 applications.

(b) Improvement Grants (Section 20) :

Subject to certain conditions local Authorities may make grants to persons for improvement of housing accommodation. Information was supplied to the City Planning Officer in respect of 44 applications :—

Applications received	...	...	...	44
Applications approved	...	...	...	33
Applications refused ...	...	...	...	3
Applications withdrawn	...	...	...	8

In view of the publicity given to these new housing provisions, it was surprising that the number of applications was again low. It was again observed that only owner/occupiers appear to be interested in taking up grants for the improvement of properties. The reluctance on the part of owners of tenanted houses to modernise their property may be due in part to the lack of inducement of the grant and the fact that the percentage increase on the rent is not sufficiently attractive; or it may be that the owners are unwilling to meet the cost of putting a house in full repair in order to secure the grant for improvements.

There were seven proposals approved for the conversion of properties into several units of accommodation, providing in all 18 self-contained units.

Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954.

Certificates of disrepair :

Applications received	...	...	...	2
Applications approved and Certificates granted	...			1
Certificates revoked ...	...	...	...	1

A certificate of disrepair granted in 1955, was the subject of dispute between landlord and tenant heard at the County Court in June, 1956. The Judge gave judgment for the defendants with costs, the revocation of the Certificate of Disrepair being refused.

Overcrowding :

Number of visits	...	...	...	...	92
New cases found	...	...	...	...	40
Cases abated	...	...	...	...	44
Cases still to be abated	...	...	...	...	101

In 1946, there were 204 cases of overcrowding and since that time a further 946 cases were reported, making a total of 1,150 of which 1,049 were abated during this eleven years period, thus leaving 101 cases unabated at the end of the year.

Inspections and Re-inspections in connection with:—

Acquisition of dwelling houses	...	...	...	17
Applications for Council Houses	...	...	...	1373
Applications for Grants under Housing Act, 1949	...	...	...	129
Applications for loans under Housing Act, 1949	...	...	...	237
Conditions in Corporation Houses	...	...	...	126
Housing conditions—Housing Act, 1936	...	...	...	786
Housing conditions—Public Health Act, 1936	...	...	...	1973
Common Lodging Houses	...	...	...	5
Permitted number of occupants in dwelling houses	...	...	...	8
Certificates of Disrepair	...	...	...	5
Property Enquiries:—Information was supplied regarding notices, etc., in respect of 955 premises.				

Works carried out, etc.

Dampness remedied	...	...	...	...	104
Domestic washing facilities provided	...	...	...	...	1
Food stores provided	...	...	...	...	1
Lighting and ventilation improved	...	...	...	...	13
Paving repaired	...	...	...	...	27
Roofs, gutters, etc. repaired	...	...	...	...	186
Sanitary accommodation provided or improved	...	...	...	...	49
Sinks provided or renewed	...	...	...	...	22
General repairs	...	...	...	...	224

SECTION II.**ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE.****Complaints.**

Complaints investigated (excluding 172 in respect of food and 509 in respect of rodent control) totalled 363.

Controlled Tipping.

A total of 107 visits were made to the controlled tipping sites at Rush Hill. No evidence of infestation by rodents or other pests was observed thus indicating satisfactory methods of tipping, etc.

Tents, Vans and Sheds.

One new application was received and granted for permission to station and use a caravan and one application for use of a site on which to station caravans. The latter was refused. Six applications for renewal of licences were received and approved. The site at Quarry Farm, Claverton Down on which 52 caravans are permitted was again fully occupied throughout the year and maintained in a satisfactory condition.

Atmospheric Pollution.

The Clean Air Act received the Royal Assent on 5th July, 1956, but many of its provisions will not come into operation until 1958. Of those which are already in operation is included that which empowers local authorities by Order, subject to confirmation by the Minister of Housing and Local Government, to declare "smoke control areas" in which the emission of smoke from chimneys will constitute an offence. This matter is receiving the attention of the Health Committee.

In general, Bath continued to be relatively free from serious nuisances from smoke but whenever excessive emissions were observed appropriate action was taken.

Flooding.

No serious flooding occurred during the year.

Keeping of Animals.

In connection with investigations into complaints regarding the keeping of animals the practice was continued of notifying Inspector E. B. G. Senior, R.S.P.C.A., in any case where suspicion of cruelty arose and at all times there was excellent co-operation.

Inspections and Re-inspections, re:—

Accumulations	...	...	...	...	156
Common Lodging houses		...	...	...	5
Controlled Tipping	...	...	...	...	107
Drainage inspection	..	...	...	...	833
Drain Testing (Smoke 108, Chemical 55, Colour 41)	...				204
Fairgrounds	...	...	...	...	7
Flooding	...	...	...	...	7
Infectious Disease	...	...	...	...	147
Insect Pest Control	...	...	...	...	152
Keeping of Animals and Poultry	...	...	...	...	28

Markets	...	...	...	...	...	30
Nuisances—unspecified	...	...	...	...	...	36
Provision of Dustbins	...	...	...	...	...	70
Provision of Sanitary Accommodation	...	...	...	...	...	67
Rivers, Canals and Brooks	...	...	...	...	...	16
Rodent Control (Including 11,917 by Rodent Operators)	...	...	...	...	...	12,110
Schools and Public Buildings	...	...	...	...	...	30
Smoke (Industrial 53, Domestic 29)	...	...	...	...	...	62
Swimming Baths	...	...	...	...	...	10
Tents, Vans and Sheds	...	...	...	...	...	95
Water Supplies	...	...	...	...	...	143
						<hr/> <hr/> 14,315 <hr/> <hr/>

Works completed, nuisances abated, etc. :—

Accumulations removed	...	...	...	...	50
Animals—nuisance from keeping abated	...	...	...	...	3
Cleansing of dirty premises	...	...	...	...	6
Defective sewers repaired	...	...	...	...	11
Drains repaired	...	...	...	...	76
,, unstopped	...	...	...	...	22
,, reconstructed	...	...	...	...	81
Dustbins provided	...	...	...	...	23
Smoke nuisance industrial	...	...	...	...	4
,, ,, domestic	...	...	...	...	10
Water pollution abated	...	...	...	...	1
Water supply reinstated	...	...	...	...	1

SECTION III.

FOOD.

(A) INSPECTION AND REGISTRATION OF FOOD PREMISES

Registration of Food Premises (Food and Drugs Act).

	Newly Registered	Discon- tinued	Total now registered
Preparation or Manufacture of sausages or potted, pressed, pickled or pre- served food	5	—	64
Manufacture and sale of ice-cream	—	—	5
Sale of Ice-cream	12	—	243
Storage of ice-cream intended for sale	—	—	1

Merchandise Marks Act, 1926 :

Observations were kept on various food shops to ascertain whether the provisions of the Act were complied with but no contravention was detected.

Food Premises :

Considerable attention was again given to the inspection and re-inspection of food premises with particular regard to the provisions of the Food Hygiene Regulations, to the sampling of various foods and drugs, and the examination of foodstuffs suspected to be unsound or un-wholesome.

Food complaints :—

Received and investigated	172
---------------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----

Contraventions dealt with :—

Clothing lockers provided	...	...	...	24
Constant hot water supply provided	...	...	...	58
Cracked, chipped and dirty crockery, etc., replaced	...	...	...	20
Dirty food vehicles cleansed	...	...	...	3
Drying facilities improved	...	...	...	2
Faulty handling or wrapping improved	...	...	...	18
First aid materials provided	...	...	...	46
Fly-proofing carried out	...	...	...	2
Hand washing notices displayed	...	...	..	17
Inadequate protection of foodstuffs remedied	...	...	...	42
Intervening ventilated space provided to sanitary accommodation	...	...	...	12
Means of refrigeration provided	...	...	...	2
New chopping blocks provided in butchers' shops	...	...	...	2
Personal hygiene improved	...	...	...	14
Receptacles for food provided	...	...	...	10
Receptacles for refuse provided	...	...	...	61
Repairs effected	...	...	...	36
Rooms or apparatus cleansed	...	...	...	79
Sinks provided	...	...	...	22
Smoking whilst handling food discontinued	...	...	...	1
Soap and towels provided	...	...	...	76
Ventilation provided or improved	...	...	...	17
Wash basins provided	...	...	...	48

Inspections and re-inspections:—

Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	114
Butchers Shops	...	...	...	...	192
Canteens and kitchens (including Cafés, hotels and restaurants)	...	...	...	...	412
Cattle Market	...	...	...	...	65
Confectioners	...	...	...	...	71
Dairies—45, Pasteurising Plant—15	...	...	...	...	60
Examination of Foodstuffs	...	...	...	...	606
Fishmongers and Poulterers	...	...	...	...	55
Food preparing premises and cooked meat shops	...	...	...	...	176
Food poisoning investigations	...	...	...	...	16
Food sampling:—					
Food and Drugs Act samples	...	...	...	...	140
Ice-cream	...	...	...	...	36
Milk for bacteriological examination	...	...	...	...	128
,, ,, biological examination	...	...	...	...	12
Food vehicles	...	...	...	...	22
Fried Fish Shops	...	...	...	...	40
Fruiterers and Greengrocers	...	...	...	...	160
Grocers and Provision Merchants	...	...	...	...	311
Ice-cream Manufacturers	...	...	...	...	34
Ice-cream Vendors	...	...	...	...	154
Licensed premises	...	...	...	...	36
Meat Depots	...	...	...	...	16
Merchandise Marks Act	..	...	...	...	31
Provision Market	...	...	...	...	70
Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	1,671
Water Sampling	...	...	...	...	287
					4.915

Careful attention was given to the storage, preparation and display of foodstuffs sold at the several out-door events held at the Recreation Ground, Sydney Gardens, and land at North Parade Bridge Road. With two exceptions, the standard of cleanliness was satisfactory although the provision of facilities at the Recreation Ground to enable caterers to deal more efficiently with field catering is badly needed. Several contraventions were noted but the co-operation was excellent and speedy attention given to food hygiene requirements. With regard to the two exceptions, these concerned the storage and sale of foodstuffs from stalls which were found to be in a dirty condition. Warnings were given and these resulted in immediate attention by the proprietors.

Food Hygiene :

A survey was carried out of the catering and food protection arrangements in old people's homes and meal centres under the control of the Welfare Committee and of old people's homes registered under the National Assistance Act, 1948. The actual survey was carried out by four of the District Inspectors—Messrs. R. E. Adams, R. C. Decent, R. J. Pendlebury and D. G. I. Smith, to whom I am indebted for the meticulous manner in which they carried out this task and for the detailed reports they prepared.

A general report on the survey was prepared and a copy sent to the Child Welfare Officer and I am pleased to report that at 31.12.56, considerable improvements had been effected at a number of the establishments inspected.

The attention of certain bakers and confectioners was drawn to the inadequate protection of trays of pastries, etc. In some instances vans were left unattended with the rear doors fully open despite the fact that the van contained several trays of pastries which were not provided with adequate protection.

Dr. Weston, Mr. Dhenin and myself assisted in two courses of lectures on food hygiene given to members of the School Meals Service. These lectures were well attended and it is pleasing to know of the keen interest shewn by Miss Graham, School Meals Organiser, not only in the efficient training of staff but also of the efforts made to comply with the Food Hygiene Regulations in school kitchens' and canteens.

Films on "Food Hygiene" were shewn to various groups of foodhandlers and were supplemented by short talks given by Mr. Dhenin, Mr. Pendlebury and myself.

I had the honour of serving on the Standing Committee of the Royal Society of Health which was appointed to prepare Codes of Practice for the food trades in connection with the Hygiene of Food and Food Equipment. These codes of practice are now under consideration by the appropriate Government Departments.

Food Poisoning.

Investigations were carried out in respect of two outbreaks of suspected food poisoning which had been officially notified. In all, nine persons were affected.

In the first outbreak no particular item of food appeared to be implicated and it was believed that infection was probably spread through handling of soiled linen and clothes.

The second outbreak was due to *Salmonella oranienburg* and evidence appeared to involve food prepared in the house but again the actual item of food causing the outbreak was not discovered.

(B) FOOD AND DRUGS SAMPLING.

The number of samples submitted for analysis was 248 which represented approximately 3 per 1,000 of population. Three of the samples or approximately one per cent. were reported as not genuine, viz.:—

No. 72 Apricots (tinned):

Examination of the tin showed the presence of two small holes through which bacteria could enter. The contents were actively fermenting and contained live yeasts and alcohol while the syrup contained 20 p.p.m. lead. The sample was regarded as adulterated and unfit for human consumption. The tin was one of a consignment received by a local trader under unusual circumstances and the facts were reported to the local authority from whose area the consignment was supplied. Information was later received in respect of certain action taken in connection therewith.

No. 39 Pineapple (tinned):

The contents contained copper 0.25 p.p.m., tin 71 p.p.m. and lead 5.0 p.p.m. In view of the high lead content the sample was returned as adulterated. The facts were reported to the authority from whose area the tin was despatched and I was subsequently informed that a thorough investigation had been carried out but no explanation could be given as to the source of the lead content.

No. 38 Tomato Juice (tinned):

The sample contained a rather high lead content (6.5 p.p.m.). A subsequent formal sample was found to be genuine.

It is perhaps significant that the only samples returned as adulterated were tinned foods, two of which shewed the presence of excess lead content 6.5 p.p.m. and 5 p.p.m. whereas the recommended limits in the foods concerned was 1 p.p.m.

In view of the ever increasing consumption of tinned foods, therefore, it is evident that more attention should be devoted to the analysis of tinned foods, particularly where there is the potential risk of lead being present which of course is a cumulative poison. The Food Standards Committee Report on Lead published in 1954 points out that lead is one of the most widespread and serious of the metallic contaminants of food and drink.

I had the honour of reading a paper on "Food and Drugs Sampling" to the Society of Analytical Chemistry (Western Section).

Details of the various samples submitted for analysis are set out in the following table and it may be noted that no less than 98 different types of food and drugs were examined:—

<i>Article</i>	<i>Samples Examined</i>		<i>Samples Adulterated</i>	
	<i>Informal</i>	<i>Formal</i>	<i>Informal</i>	<i>Formal</i>
Almond 	2	—	—	—
Apricots 	2	—	1	—

<i>Article</i>	<i>Samples Examined</i>		<i>Samples Adulterated</i>	
	<i>Informal</i>	<i>Formal</i>	<i>Informal</i>	<i>Formal</i>
Banana Curd	1	—	—	—
Beans	3	—	—	—
Biscuits	3	—	—	—
Borax B.P.	1	—	—	—
Brandy	—	2	—	—
Brandy Flavouring	1	—	—	—
Butter	5	—	—	—
Cake	2	—	—	—
Cake mixture	1	—	—	—
Calves feet jelly	1	—	—	—
Cascara	1	—	—	—
Castor oil	1	—	—	—
Cheese	8	—	—	—
Christmas pudding	4	—	—	—
Chutney	1	—	—	—
Codeine tablets	1	—	—	—
Cod roe (tinned)	1	—	—	—
Coffee and Chicory essence	4	—	—	—
Colouring	1	—	—	—
Confectionery (sugar)	23	—	—	—
Cooking fat	1	—	—	—
Crab meat	1	—	—	—
Cream	3	—	—	—
Curry powder	3	—	—	—
Custard powder	1	—	—	—
Dates	2	—	—	—
Dried fruit salad	1	—	—	—
Drinking chocolate	1	—	—	—
Fish Paste	4	—	—	—
Flour	3	—	—	—
Fruit Pectin	1	—	—	—
Fruit salad	1	—	—	—
Gelatine	1	—	—	—
Gin	—	2	—	—
Glucose tablets	1	—	—	—
Glycerine in lemon	1	—	—	—
Ground ginger	1	—	—	—
Ground nut oil	1	—	—	—
Ice-cream	11	—	—	—
Ice lolly	5	—	—	—
Indigestion tablets	1	—	—	—
Instant Postum	1	—	—	—
Jam	3	—	—	—
Jelly	1	—	—	—
Lemon juice	1	—	—	—
Lemonade powder	2	—	—	—

<i>Article</i>	<i>Samples Examined</i>		<i>Samples Adulterated</i>	
	<i>Informal</i>	<i>Formal</i>	<i>Informal</i>	<i>Formal</i>
Lobster (tinned)	1	—	—	—
Margarine	8	—	—	—
Marmalade	2	—	—	—
Marzipan	4	—	—	—
Mayonaise	1	—	—	—
Meat paste	6	—	—	—
Meat pies	1	—	—	—
Meat roll	1	—	—	—
Milk	1	18	—	—
Milk flavouring	3	—	—	—
Minced beef	1	—	—	—
Minced pork	1	—	—	—
Mincemeat	3	—	—	—
Mustard	3	—	—	—
Olive oil	1	—	—	—
Orange juice	1	—	—	—
Parsley and Thyme	1	—	—	—
Peas	1	—	—	—
Peel	1	—	—	—
Pepper	2	—	—	—
Pickles	2	—	—	—
Pineapple	2	—	1	—
Port flavour beverage	1	—	—	—
Powdered soup	1	—	—	—
Prunes (dried)	3	—	—	—
Raspberries	1	—	—	—
Red Cabbage	1	—	—	—
Rice	2	—	—	—
Rum	—	2	—	—
Salad cream	2	—	—	—
Sardines	2	—	—	—
Sauce	8	—	—	—
Sausages (beef)	2	—	—	—
Soft drinks (cordials)	3	—	—	—
Soup	2	—	—	—
Spice	3	—	—	—
Sponge mixture	1	—	—	—
Steak and kidney pudding... ..	2	—	—	—
Stomach tablets	1	—	—	—
Strawberries	1	—	—	—
Sultanas	2	—	—	—
Tea	5	—	—	—
Tomato juice	1	1	1	—
Tomato paste	1	—	—	—
Tomatoes (tinned)	2	—	—	—

<i>Article</i>			<i>Samples Examined</i>		<i>Samples Adulterated</i>	
			<i>Informal</i>	<i>Formal</i>	<i>Informal</i>	<i>Formal</i>
Vanilla flavouring	...	...	1	—	—	—
Vinegar	...	...	2	—	—	—
Whiskey	...	...	—	6	—	—
Yeast Tablets	...	...	1	—	—	—
			—	—	—	—
		Totals	217	31	3	—
			—	—	—	—

(C) INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.**MEAT INSPECTION**

Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part.

	Cattle excl'dg. Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs at		TOTAL
					Bacon Factory	Others	
Number killed (if known) ...	2656	460	1466	5490	14451	5022	29545
Number inspected ...	2656	460	1466	5490	14451	5022	29545
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci							
Whole carcasses condemned ...	—	5	8	7	22	3	45
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	894	255	7	578	1484	708	3926
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci ...	33.66	56.52	1.02	10.66	10.42	14.16	6.55
Tuberculosis only							
Whole carcasses condemned ...	—	3	1	—	7	—	11
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	130	63	1	—	585	97	876
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ...	4.89	14.35	0.14	—	4.10	1.93	7.194
Cysticercosis							
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	5	—	—	—	—	—	5
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration ...	5	—	—	—	—	—	5
Generalised and totally condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

PRIVATE SLAUGHTERHOUSESVisits to examine meat ... **1,290**

Weight of meat rejected as unfit for human consumption :—

11 Tons 8 Cwts. 3 Qrs. 16 Lbs.**BACON FACTORY**Visits to examine meat ... **281**

Weight of meat rejected as unfit for human consumption :—

13 Tons 15 Cwts. 3 Qrs. 11½ Lbs.

	Period Jan. 1938 to July, 1942	Period Oct. 1949 to Dec. 1956 7½ yrs.	Broken period of 11¾ yrs.
Number of pigs killed ...	72,881	134,122	207,003
Carcases wholly condemned on account of Tuberculosis ...	291 (= 1 in 250)	189 (= 1 in 709)	480 (= 1 in 431)
Carcases wholly condemned on account of diseases OTHER than Tuberculosis ...	355 (= 1 in 205)	182 (= 1 in 742)	537 (= 1 in 387)

It is interesting to note that the number of pigs condemned on account of tuberculosis in the 1938-42 period was nearly three times greater than the number condemned during the 1949-56 period.

Carcases wholly condemned on account of diseases other than tuberculosis during the 1938-42 period was over 3½ times as many as were condemned during the period 1949-56

The number of slaughtermen licenced by the Corporation was twenty-nine.

Atrophic Rhinitis :

The practice commenced in August, 1954, of examining approximately 10 per cent. of the heads of pigs slaughtered at the Bacon Factory to ascertain if evidence of atrophic rhinitis was present, was again continued with the following results:—

	Baconers	Porkers	Boars	Sows	Total
(a) Number of pigs killed at Bacon Factory ...	11144	1186	62	2059	14451
(b) Number of heads ex- amined (including 518 condemned on account of T.B. and other diseases) ...	1815	22	4	247	2088

The Divisional Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food was kept informed by means of quarterly reports, and the number of cases found was Nil.

Bovine Cysticercosis :

This is an infection of cattle with *Cysticercus bovis*, the larval stage of the human tapeworm *Taenia Saginata* and is acquired by animals as a result of ingesting tapeworm eggs which have been passed in the faeces of an infected human host. Though fairly common in some tropical countries it has until recent years been very rare in this

country The infection is not notifiable but according to P. H. Silverman, B.S., M.S., Ph.D., Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, hospital reports to the Central Public Health Laboratories indicate that, on an average, four tapeworm patients are treated each week in England and Wales.

In view of the reappearance of *Cysticercus bovis*, your Inspectors kept a careful watch for this parasite when carrying out meat inspection duties and during the year five cases were found (three in the masseter muscles and two in hearts) and were dealt with in accordance with instructions issued by the Ministry of Food in 1952. Specimens were on display at the Bath Civic Exhibition—February, 1957.

PRIVATE SLAUGHTERHOUSES, MEAT DEPOTS AND SHOPS

Conditions rendering Carcase Meat and Organs
unfit for human consumption.

DISEASE.	Cattle excluding Cows lbs.	Cows lbs.	Calves lbs.	Sheep and Lambs lbs.	Pigs lbs.
Abscesses	1338	323	7	74	115
Actinobacillosis	82	—	—	—	—
Actinomycosis	139	105	—	—	—
Angioma	141	470	—	—	—
Arthritis	—	—	—	—	3
Bruising	91	330	15	—	4
Cirrhosis	85	120	—	4	33
Congestion	—	—	—	1	86
Contaminated	20	—	—	—	4
Cysticercus Bovis	50	—	—	—	—
Decomposition	14	—	—	—	—
Distomatosis	5051	1517½	—	160½	3
Emaciation (Pathological)	—	990	82	253	—
Fatty Degeneration	—	—	—	3	10½
Fever	—	596	113	118	—
Fibrosis	21	—	—	—	6
Immaturity	—	—	108	—	—
Inflammation	86½	59	—	18	385
Mastitis	—	10	—	—	—
Melanosis	1	—	½	—	—
Navel ill	—	—	72	—	—
Necrosis	8	—	—	—	326½
Necrosis (Bacillary)	—	16	—	—	—
Nephritis	—	4½	—	—	1
Oedema	—	450	—	76	—
Parasitic (other than those specifically mentioned)	198	53	—	647½	536
Pericarditis	8	—	—	—	107½
Peritonitis	—	2	—	—	—
Pleurisy	8	—	—	—	32
Pneumonia	—	—	—	63½	257
Pyæmia	—	—	—	—	80
Sarcoma	—	—	60	—	—
Swine Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	230
Strongyli	—	—	—	26	2
Tumour	12	—	—	—	—
TUBERCULOSIS	2922	4991	104	—	1095
	10275½	10037	561½	1444½	3317½

Total = 25,636lbs., or 11tons 8cwt. 3qrs. 16lbs.

BACON FACTORY

	Baconers	Porkers	Boars	Sows	Total
Number of pigs killed ...	11,144	1,186	62	2,059	14,451

Conditions rendering Carcase Meat and Organs unfit for human consumption :—

DISEASE OR CONDITION.

	Pigs lbs.
Abscesses ...	953½
Arthritis ...	92
Bruising ...	448
Cirrhosis ...	164
Congestion ...	39
Contaminated ...	89
Decomposition ...	230 (1)
Fever (Pyrexia) ...	331 (1)
Hydronephrosis ...	214½
Inflammation ...	3892½
Imperfect bleeding ...	425 (1)
Jaundice ...	480 (1)
Mastitis (Localised) ...	757
Melanosis ...	48
Metaplasia ...	2
Metritis ...	784 (2)
Moribund ...	1585 (5)
Necrosis ...	368
Nephritis ...	88
Oedema ...	396 (1)
Parasites ...	133
Peritonitis (Acute Septic) ...	1146 (4)
Pleurisy (Acute Septic) ...	434
Pneumonia (Acute Septic) ...	276 (2)
Pyæmia ...	155 (1)
Sepsis (result of fracture) ...	9
Swine Erysipelas ...	582 (3)
TUBERCULOSIS ...	16636 (7)
Tumours ...	126
Urticaria ...	12
	<hr/>
	30895½ (29)
	<hr/>

Total = 13tons 15cwts. 3qrs. 11½lbs.

The figures in brackets indicate the number of cases where it was found necessary to condemn the whole of the carcase and its organs.

The percentage of pigs wholly condemned in the bacon factory was 14.45% against 5.0% in private slaughterhouses. This is probably accounted for by the fact that a much larger percentage of sows was slaughtered at the bacon factory.

Foodstuffs Condemned in Tins, Packets, etc.

<i>Description</i>	<i>Tins or Pkts.</i>	<i>Wt. in Lbs.</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Tins or Pkts.</i>	<i>Wt. in Lbs.</i>
Anchovy Paste ...	916	115½	Jam—		
Asparagus ...	3	3	Apricot ...	9	16½
Baby Food ...	1	½	Blackcurrant ...	1	1
Baked Beans ...	129	107	Lemon Curd ...	1	1
Beans ...	5	4¾	Raspberry ...	1	½
Beetroot ...	4	15½	Macedoines ...	2	2½
Broad Beans ...	5	4¾	Marmalade ...	28	41½
Butter Beans ...	6	4	Marmite ...	1	½
Carrots ...	18	35½	Meat—		
Celery ...	1	1½	Bacon ...	2	35½
Cereals—			Beef Roll ...	3	3
Creamed Rice ...	5	5	Beef Steak ...	2	2
Macaroni ...	3	2½	Beef and Tongue	1	½
Rice ...	7	7	Brisket of Beef	4	27
Consomme ...	1	¾	Chicken ...	4	8½
Cream ...	25	8½	Corned Beef ...	176	657
Cucumber ...	1	1½	Ham ...	12	104½
Fish—			Ham & Tongue Rolls	3	96½
Brisling ...	13	3	Jellied Veal ...	8	50½
Crab ...	13	3½	Lamb ...	1	¾
Fish Paste ...	1	¼	Lamb's Tongue	9	5½
Herrings ...	19	67½	Liver ...	2	20
Herring Roes	6	2	Luncheon Meat	87	166
Pilchards ...	74	49	Luncheon Tongue	4	24
Salmon ...	48	18¾	Meat and Eggs	1	¾
Sardines ...	127	30	Minced Beef Loaf	48	36
Shrimps ...	4	1½	Minced Meat Loaf	17	12¾
Tuna Fillet ...	8	2	Ox Tongue ...	8	39
French Beans ...	2	1½	Pork ...	3	1
Fruit—			Pork Pies ...	5	1½
Apples ...	2	11	Pork Roll ...	4	9
Apple Juice ...	144	90	Pressed Pork ...	3	16
Apricots ...	212	611¾	Sheep's Tongue	9	8¾
Cherries ...	33	33½	Spam ...	1	¾
Currants ...	1	50	Steak and Kidney	1	½
Damsons ...	1	1	Steak Pies ...	8	6½
Fruit Cocktail	4	3	Steak Pudding ...	1	1
Fruit Salad ...	317	266½	Stewed Mutton ...	6	6
Grapefruit ...	75	89¾	Stewed Steak ...	105	99½
Grapefruit Juice	10	9½	Veal ...	22	176
Grapes ...	4	4	Veal and Pork ...	2	16
Greengages ...	3	3½	Milk—		
Gooseberries ...	2	2	Condensed ...	21	23
Olives ...	7	3½	Evaporated ...	142	108¾
Oranges ...	125	96	Mixed Vegetables	6	4¾
Orange Juice ...	28	31½	Mixed Pickles ...	2	1½
Peaches ...	209	605½	Onions ...	3	2
Pears ...	112	152½	Pate de foie Gras	1	½
Pineapple ...	170	301½	Patum Pepperem	1	½
Pineapple Juice	27	36	Peas ...	296	284½
Plums ...	35	56½	Pickles ...	5	4
Prunes ...	3	2¾	Pickled Cabbage	1	1¾
Raspberries ...	3	2½	Pickled Walnuts	1	¾
Rhubarb ...	9	15½	Puff Pastry ...	2	2
Strawberries ...	9	8½	Runner Beans	1	½
Gherkins ...	4	3	Salad Cream ...	1	2½
Green Beans ...	4	3¾	Sandwich Spread	8	2
Health Salts ...	116	58	Sausages—		
Honey ...	1	1	Beef ...	11	37½
Horseradish Sauce	2	1½	Cocktail ...	1	½
Irish Stew ...	7	7	Sauerkraut ...	17	18½

<i>Description</i>	<i>Tins or Pkts.</i>	<i>Wt. in Lbs.</i>
Scotch Broth ...	2	2
Soups—		
Chicken ...	11	9 $\frac{1}{4}$
Kidney ...	2	1 $\frac{3}{4}$
Meat... ...	15	13 $\frac{1}{4}$
Mock Turtle ...	5	7
Mulligatawny ...	3	2 $\frac{1}{2}$
Mushroom ...	7	6
Ox Tail ...	8	7
Pea ...	2	1 $\frac{3}{4}$
Tomato ...	18	16 $\frac{1}{2}$
Vegetable ...	15	14
Spaghetti ...	17	13
Sugar Corn ...	2	2
Tomatoes ...	413	485
Tomato Juice ...	4	4 $\frac{1}{2}$
Tomato Paste ...	3	30
Tomato Puree ...	6	66
Vegetable Salad ...	7	5 $\frac{3}{4}$

Total weight : 5,930 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs.

2 Tons 12 Cwts. 3 Qrs. 22 $\frac{3}{4}$ Lbs.

Meat Condemned at Retailers' Premises and Processed into Inedible By-products

	<i>Wt. in Lbs.</i>
Bacon ...	4
Beef ...	1,128 $\frac{1}{2}$
Cod Fillets ...	42
Hake ...	8
Pork ...	362

Total weight : 1,544 $\frac{1}{2}$ Lbs.

13 Cwts. 3 Qrs. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ Lbs.

Other Foods Condemned

	<i>Wt. in Lbs.</i>
Bacon ...	29 $\frac{3}{4}$
Bath Chap ...	7
Beef (Pressed) ...	14
Brawn ...	2 $\frac{3}{4}$
Brisket of Beef ...	9
Cheese ...	2 $\frac{3}{4}$
Currants ...	15
Egg Pie ...	2
Faggots ...	64
Fish Cakes ...	3
Grosvenor Pie ...	1 $\frac{1}{4}$
Ham ...	9 $\frac{3}{4}$
Ham and Tongue ...	101 $\frac{1}{2}$
Jellied Veal ...	5
Kidney ...	24
Luncheon Tongue ...	2
Ox Tongue ...	2 $\frac{1}{4}$
Pork ...	127 $\frac{3}{4}$

Fish Condemned

	<i>Wt. in Lbs.</i>
Haddock ...	42
Hake ...	5
Herring Roes ...	56
Lemon Soles ...	28
Smoked Fillets ...	14

Total weight : 145 lbs.

1 Cwt. 1 Qr. 5 Lbs.

	<i>Wt. in Lbs.</i>
Pork Pie ...	5 $\frac{1}{4}$
Puff Pastry ...	12
Prunes ...	20
Raspberries ...	$\frac{3}{4}$
Rolled Oats ...	67
Sausages—	
Beef ...	122
Liver ...	14
Luncheon ...	20 $\frac{1}{2}$
Pork ...	180
Steak and Kidney Pie ...	57
Swiss Rolls ...	2
Tongue ...	1 $\frac{1}{2}$
Veal, Ham and Egg Pie ...	1

Total weight : 925 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.

8 Cwts. 1 Qr. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ Lbs.

Poultry Condemned

	<i>Wt. in Lbs.</i>
Fowls ...	13
Geese ...	235

Total weight : 248 lbs.

2 Cwts. 0 Qrs. 24 Lbs.

Total Weights of Food Condemned.

	Tons	cwts	qrs	lbs
Meat at Bacon Factory ...	13	15	3	11½
Meat at Private Slaughterhouses	11	8	3	16
Meat at Retail Premises ...		13	3	4½
Fish		1	1	5
Poultry		2	0	24
Foods in Tins, packets, etc. ...	2	12	3	22¾
Other Foods		8	1	1½
Total ...	29	3	1	1¼

Disposal of Condemned Food.

	Tons	cwts	qrs	lbs
Destruction	3	4	2	25¼
Processing into inedible by-products	25	18	2	4
Total ...	29	3	1	1¼

It is gratifying to report that although the number of animals slaughtered at private slaughterhouses during the year increased from 15,094 to 15,371 the total weight of meat condemned was only 11½ tons, compared with 21½ tons in 1955.

In seeking an explanation it was noticed that there had been a considerable reduction in the weight of meat condemned on account of abscesses, angioma, cirrhosis, distomatosis, emaciation, oedema, parasitical infection and tuberculosis. Whatever may be the real explanation it can be stated that the quality of animals sent in for slaughter in the past few years has been a distinct improvement on some which were sent in previous years. It will be interesting to see if this improvement continues and it would also be useful to know if similar improvement has been observed in other areas.

(D). (MILK AND DAIRIES).

Registration.

Registered dairies—9, Registered distributors—68.

Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1949.

One hundred and nine (109) licences were granted:—

	Dealers	Supplementary Pasteurising Plant
Tuberculin Tested ...	27	7
Pasteurised ...	29	8
Sterilised	34	3

Examination of Designated Milk.

Designation	Samples obtained	Failed Meth. Blue Test	Failed Phosphatase Test	Failed Turbidity Test
Tuberculin Tested ...	117	22	*	*
Pasteurised ...	28	—†	1	*
T.T. Pasteurised ...	27†	—†	2	*
Total ...	172	22	3	—

*Test not applicable.

†Includes 15 samples of Channel Island Milk.

‡With regard to 17 samples (9 Pasteurised and 8 T.T. Pasteurised), the methylene blue test was not carried out as the shade temperature, on the day the samples were taken exceeded 65°F.

The number of "consumer" samples of raw "tuberculin tested" milk obtained was 117 of which 22 or 18.8 per cent. failed to pass the methylene blue test.

The large increase in the percentage of samples which failed to pass the methylene blue test (18.8 per cent. as compared with 4.7 per cent. in 1955) is accounted for by the fact that sampling was more selective, our attention being concentrated more on sources of supply regarded as doubtful.

Of the 55 samples of heat treated milk none failed the methylene blue test but 3 failed the phosphatase test.

Biological Examination of Milk:

Thirty-five samples of T.T. milk and two samples of raw cream were submitted for biological examination all of which were reported as negative.

Examination of milk receptacles:

In certain cases where unsatisfactory results were received in respect of samples of milk submitted to the laboratory, it was deemed necessary to check on the condition of churns in which milk was being delivered to dairies and in other cases to check the condition of bottles leaving the bottling machines or distributors' premises in order to ascertain whether the methods adopted at the farms and/or dairy were such as to ensure that receptacles were clean and sterile. The results were as follows:—

No. of Churns:	No. of Groups:	Satisfactory:	Unsatisfactory:
24	4	1	3

No. of Bottles:	No. of Groups:	Satisfactory:	Unsatisfactory:
108	18	9	9

Each group consisted of six churns or six bottles.

In every instance where the result was unsatisfactory a full investigation was carried out and it was found that the trouble was due to either one or other of the following causes:—

(1) Mechanical breakdown.

(a) Detergent and rinse pump breakdowns.

(b) Loose actuating arms.

(c) Boiler breakdowns.

In some instances, defects of a less serious nature in isolation were found to completely unbalance the plant.

(2) Unsatisfactory washing techniques.

(3) Careless attention to detail.

(4) Churns so rusted that they did not permit of being readily cleansed.

Foreign material in milk receptacles:

A few complaints were received in respect of foreign material found in bottles containing milk and in each case the matter was taken up with the distributor. An unusual complaint was received regarding milk bottles returned from certain schools containing colouring matter and it was subsequently ascertained that it was due to scholars using the bottles for the mixing of water colours used in poster designing. The attention of the Director of Education was drawn to this undesirable practice and he circularised head teachers requesting them to ensure that the practice ceased.

(E). ICE CREAM.

Eighty samples of ice-cream submitted for examination to the Public Health Laboratory Service were graded as follows:—

Provisional Grade 1 ... 49 or 61.25%	}	Satisfactory 88 75%
Grade 2 ... 22 or 27.5%		
Grade 3 ... 5 or 6.25%	}	Unsatisfactory 11.25%
Grade 4 ... 4 or 5.0%		

The practice of selective sampling was again carried out and this probably explains the increase in the percentage of samples in Grades 3 and 4.

(F). WATER SAMPLING.

Of the 292 samples of water submitted for examination 92 were reported as unsatisfactory but the large majority of these were in connection with investigations into possible sources of pollution.

Source of Supply				Number examined	Number Unsatisfactory
Direct from City mains	...	...	...	4	1
From tanks fed by City mains	...	...	...	3	1
Mineral springs	...	...	...	205	56
Other springs	...	...	...	39	24
Swimming Baths (mineral)	...	...	...	17	3
„ „ (mains supply)	...	...	...	2	0
Wells	...	...	...	19	6
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	3	1
				292	92

PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY SERVICE— MANOR HOSPITAL

The number of samples submitted to the above Laboratory totalled 629 and once again I am pleased to record my sincere thanks to Dr. P. G. Mann (Director) and his staff for their help and co-operation.

Bacteriological examination :—

Milk	...	...	...	...	...	172
Milk bottle rinses	...	...	...	...	...	18
Churn rinses	...	...	...	...	...	4
Ice-cream	...	...	...	...	...	80
Water	...	...	...	...	...	287— 561

Biological examination :—

Milk	...	...	...	...	...	35
Cream	...	...	...	...	...	2— 37

Food Poisoning :—

Faeces	...	...	...	...	...	4
Dead Mice	...	...	...	...	...	4
Ice-lollies	...	...	...	...	...	2
Rinse water (used for cleaning ice-cream scoop)						1
Eggs	...	...	...	...	...	2
*Egg Albumen	...	...	...	...	...	5
Custard Powder	...	...	...	...	...	1
Ham and Egg Pie	...	...	...	...	...	1
Tinned fish (Salmon and Tuna)	...	...	...	...	...	2— 22

Dysentery :—

Faeces	8— 8
--------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	------

Portions of flesh and organs (from food animals suspected to be diseased or affected by parasites transmissible to human beings)

1— 1

Total ... 629

*The Association of Municipal Corporations has informed the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food that in their opinion the only certain way of preventing the use of contaminated egg and the food poisoning which it causes is to ensure that all imported frozen egg and dried egg albumen are sampled immediately upon arrival in this country, and held pending the result of the examination, and, if they are found to be contaminated, destroyed immediately.

SECTION IV.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Visits of enquiry in connection with infectious and other diseases numbered 147, and disinfection was carried out at 120 premises, viz.:—

Abscess	...	...	...	...	1
Cancer	...	...	...	...	6
Dermatitis	...	...	...	...	1
Dysentery	...	...	...	...	3
Gangrene	...	...	...	...	1
Haemolytic Streptococci	...	...	...	...	1
Jaundice	...	...	...	...	1
Meningitis	...	...	...	...	2
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	6
Poliomyelitis (confirmed and suspected cases)	...	...	...	...	11
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	...	10
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	29
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	48
					120

Disinfection of bedding, etc., was carried out on 51 occasions by steam and on 8 occasions by Formalin. The following is a list of the articles disinfected:—

	Steam	Formalin
Blankets	96	—
Clothing	22	47
Mattresses	40	—
Other Articles	30	3
Pillows	52	—
Sheets	46	—
	286	50

Destruction of bedding, etc., was carried out on 13 occasions. The following is a list of the articles destroyed:—

Blankets	...	...	...	12
Clothing	...	...	...	21
Mattresses	...	...	...	14
Other Articles	...	...	...	12
Pillows	...	...	...	15
Sheets	...	...	...	8
				82

Destruction of bedding, etc., was carried out on 1 occasion outside the area at the request of Bathavon Rural District Council.

Twenty-one persons were cleansed at the Manor Hospital Cleansing Centre.

Disinfection of five premises was carried out due to the dirty condition of the rooms.

SECTION V.

FACTORIES, SHOPS, OFFICES, ETC.

Factories Act, 1937 (Part 1).

Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health :—

	Number on Register	No. of Inspections	Written Notices
Factories without Mechanical Power	234	30	1
Factories with Mechanical Power ...	486	234	9
Others	15	23	0
	735	287	10

		Defects		Referred	
		Found	Remedied	To H.M. Insp.	By H.M. Insp.
Want of Cleanliness	...	6	5	—	—
Overcrowding	...	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature	..	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation	...	1	4	—	1
Inadequate drainage of floors	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences—					
(a) Insufficient	...	3	1	—	1
(b) Unsuitable	...	9	7	—	5
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences	...	—	—	—	—
Totals		19	17	—	7

Outworkers.

Sixteen outworkers were notified. The premises in which the work was carried on were inspected and found to be satisfactory.

Shops Act, 1950.

Inspections and re-inspections	...	...	...	587
Contraventions dealt with :—				
Forms and notices	...	...	...	8
Hours of Closing	...	...	...	3
Inadequate temperature	...	...	...	2
Sanitary accommodation	...	...	...	3
Washing facilities	...	...	...	1

Offices.

Six offices were inspected but in no case was any contravention observed.

Bakehouses.

There were 24 bakehouses in use (including one basement bakehouse) to which a total of 114 visits were made.

Rag Flock and other Filling Materials Act, 1951.

Three premises are registered as required by the Act, to which a total of six visits were made. Ten samples were submitted for analysis, all of which were reported as genuine.

Pet Animals Act, 1951.

The registration of 4 premises were renewed and 1 new Licence was issued. Ten visits were made to the premises but no contraventions were observed.

Heating Appliances (Fireguards) Act, 1952.

Premises inspected 21 Unsatisfactory appliances found 8, viz.:—

Electric fires—without guards	...	...	0 (—)
„ „ with unsatisfactory guards	...	...	4 (2)
Gas fires— without guards	...	...	1 (1)
„ „ with unsatisfactory guards	...	...	3 (1)
Oil heaters— No contraventions	...	...	1 (—)

The figures in brackets indicate appliances found to be on sale in second-hand shops.

Places of public Entertainment :

Palace Theatre :

Ceased to be used as a variety theatre and after reconstruction, including improvements to the sanitary accommodation, was re-opened as a dance hall.

Odeon Cinema :—

The question of improving the means of ventilating this cinema was taken up with the Management and following a visit by one of the heating and ventilating engineers employed by the Company considerable improvement was effected.

RODENT AND PEST CONTROL.

The following is a detailed report of the Rodent Control work carried out during the year, excluding the maintenance treatment of sewers (see next page).

	TYPE OF PREMISES				
	L.A.	Business	Dwelling Houses	Others	TOTAL
No. of complaints received :					
Rats	6	46	169	10	231
Mice	7	55	188	6	256
Rats and Mice ...	Nil	13	9	Nil	22
Total	13	114	366	16	509
No. of premises found to be infested :					
On notification by Occupier :					
Rats	1	31	116	10	158
Mice	3	48	173	6	230
Rats and Mice ...	Nil	13	8	Nil	21
Total	4	92	297	16	409
On inspection :					
Rats	6	26	75	23	130
Mice	19	40	345	3	407
Rats and Mice ...	Nil	9	8	2	19
Total	25	75	428	28	556
Total Infestations :	29	167	725	44	965
No. of properties treated by Corporation :	26	133	685	44	888
No. of properties treated by Occupier :	3	34	40	Nil	77
No. of first inspections : ...	135	919	7,046	281	8,381
No. of re-inspections, visits for treatment, etc. : ...	244	970	2,031	291	3,536
Total visits	379	1,889	9,077	572	11,917
No. of baits laid :					
Prebait:	—	—	—	—	40
Poison baits: Warfarin ...	—	—	—	—	7,466
Arsenious Oxide	—	—	—	—	Nil
Zinc Phosphide	—	—	—	—	4
Others (Specify)	—	—	—	—	Nil
No. of traps set :	4	—	—	—	4
No. of bodies recovered :					
Rats	166	—	—	—	166
Mice	237	—	—	—	237
Notices served :					
Section 4 (1)—Informal ...	—	1	1	1	3
Statutory	—	—	—	—	—
No. of drain tests carried out :	—	—	—	—	78
No. of "block" control schemes carried out :	—	—	—	—	30
No. of serious infestations by mice :	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
No. of major infestations by rats :	Nil	2	Nil	1	3

These figures are included in the number of infested premises above.

Thirteen Agriculture properties were inspected. These are included in the Business figures above. Two were infested by rats, one treated by Local Authority and

Maintenance treatment of sewers.

For the twelfth successive year maintenance treatment of sewers was carried out, and the results were as follows:—

				April.	November.
Poison used	...	...	...	Arsenic	Zincphosphide
Manholes treated	...	...	...	294	105
Pre-bait takes—	Clear	...	...	109	44
	Partial	...	...	16	11
				—	—
	Total takes	...	...	125	55
	No takes	...	...	169	50

Other pests.

The number of infestations of pests other than rodents dealt with totalled 273 as enumerated hereunder:—

Ants	...	...	...	...	11
Beetles	...	...	...	...	38
Bugs	...	...	...	...	16
Cockroaches	...	...	...	...	63
Crickets	...	...	...	...	7
Fleas	...	...	...	...	8
Flies	...	...	...	...	20
Lice	...	...	...	...	1
Moths	...	...	...	...	1
Silver Fish	...	...	...	...	1
Steam Flies	...	...	...	...	5
Wasps	...	...	...	...	102
					—
					273
					—

SECTION VII.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES.

Water consumption.

Total quantity used—1956=2,525,000 gals.

1955 = 2,876,000 gals.

Damage, etc.

Doors, locks, pans, seats, etc., stolen or damaged	...	...	...	305
Water pipes damaged or burst	...	...	...	197
Flushing cisterns repaired	...	...	...	208
Drains choked	...	...	...	16
Miscellaneous repairs	...	...	...	78
				<hr/> 804 <hr/>

Baths, Washes and Cloakrooms—(Terrace Walk)

			Men		Women	
			1956	1955	1956	1955
Baths	...	...	3767	4047	2373	3056
Washes	...	...	10072	11069	7075	9211
Cloakrooms	...	...	1914	2356	1530	1792

These figures indicate a further decrease in the use of these facilities and are below the average for past years for which the figures are as follows:—

			Men	Women
Baths	...	...	3972	2806
Washes	...	...	12221	12500
Cloakrooms	...	...	4096	2435

Nevertheless, the fact that the daily use of the facilities result in 16 persons having baths, 67 a wash and brush up and 9 able to deposit parcels, is an indication of the value of these services to citizens and visitors.

NOTICES SERVED

Section I—Housing—

	Total
Housing Act, 1936, Section 9 (Repairs) ...	4
„ 11 (Demolition) ...	34
„ 12 (Closure) ...	6
„ 168 (Ownership, etc.)	23

Section II—Sanitation—

	Informal.	Formal
Public Health Act, 1936.		
Section 93, (Nuisances, etc.)	131	37
„ „ „ „ 39 ...	49	7
„ „ „ „ 44 ...	14	—
„ „ „ „ 45 ...	16	4
„ „ „ „ 56 ...	—	1
„ „ „ „ 75 ...	—	2

Section III—Food—

Food and Drugs Act, 1955	...	...	30	1
Food Byelaws Notices	...	...	—	—
Ice-cream Regulations	...	...	—	—
Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949	...	...	4	—
Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924-1952	...	...	—	—
Merchandise Marks Act, 1926	...	...	—	—

Section IV—Infectious disease— — —**Section V—Factories, Shops and Offices—**

Factories Act, 1937	...	...	...	10	—
Shops Acts, 1950	...	...	...	5	—

Section VI—Rodent and Pest Control—

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949	...	...	3	—
Heating Appliances (Fireguards) Act, 1952	...	...	8	—

BIRTHS, DEATHS UNDER 1 YEAR, AND INFANT MORTALITY, 1956.

	Total			Legitimate			Illegitimate		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Births	562	510	1072	533	487	1020	29	23	52
Deaths (under one year) ...	11	10	21	10	10	20	1	—	1
* Infant Mortality ..	19.6	19.6	19.6	18.8	20.5	19.6	34.5	—	19.2

* i.e., Deaths under one year per 1,000 live births

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

Cases.			Vision Unimpaired	Vision Impaired	Total Blindness	Deaths
Notified	Treated					
	At Home	At Hosp.				
—	—

SUMMARY OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS

Taken at 9 a.m. G.M.T., at Henrietta Park.

1956		Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apl	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Year.
Temperatures.	Mean	39.9	31.8	43.8	45.3	49.4	57.1	61.6	57.8	58.9	50.3	43.5	43.5	48.5
	„ 55 yrs Average	40.4	40.4	43.2	47.4	53.2	58.1	61.5	61.1	56.6	50.8	44.4	41.5	49.9
	Highest	54.9	51.1	60.9	65.3	73.4	76.3	82.1	70.4	75.6	64.4	56.9	56.4	82.1
	Date	28	5&29	26	11	30	11	27	9	24	14	8	12	July 27
	Lowest	24.0	10.8	25.1	28.1	30.8	35.9	45.4	41.8	43.1	30.5	24.3	24.1	10.8
Rainfall.	Date	25	3	13	20	19	15	11	21	1	27	23	27	Feb. 3
	Humidity... ..	88	91	75	76	77	67	73	74	83	83	85	90	80
	Total in inches ...	4.40	2.21	1.88	1.21	1.47	1.91	2.98	4.31	3.08	2.15	1.64	2.73	25.07
	No. Wet Days ...	19	9	10	13	6	17	15	19	18	15	10	19	170
	Mean of 90 yrs. ...	2.83	2.27	2.12	2.10	2.16	2.07	2.55	2.88	2.58	3.17	3.03	3.11	30.87
	„ Wet Days ...	15	13	13	13	12	11	13	13	13	15	15	16	162
	Sunshine, hours ...	53.0	75.3	156.7	175.6	261.3	154.5	182.3	191.3	86.5	97.7	44.7	18.8	1497.7
	Do. Mean of 50 yrs.	50.3	72.3	117.1	158.8	194.1	205.0	196.5	182.9	144.4	101.7	61.2	44.3	1528.6

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Causes of, and Ages at, Death during the Year 1956

CAUSES	Persons	M	F	-1		1-2		2-5		5-10		10-15		15-20		20-25		25-35		35-45		45-55		55-60		60-65		65-75		75-80		80-85		85-90	
				M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
1 Tuberculosis, Respiratory	4	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2 Tuberculosis, Other	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
3 Syphilitic Disease	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
4 Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5 Whooping-cough	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
6 Meningococcal Infections	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
7 Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
8 Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
9 Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10 Cancer of Stomach	35	13	22	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
11 Cancer of Lung, Bronchus	32	28	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
12 Cancer of Breast	19	...	19	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
13 Cancer of Uterus	9	...	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
14 Cancer, Other Sites	102	49	53	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
15 Leukæmia, Aleukæmia	5	3	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
16 Diabetes	5	2	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
17 Vascular Lesions Nervous System	162	56	106	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
18 Coronary Disease, etc.	134	85	49	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
19 Heart Disease with Hypertension	11	7	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
20 Other Heart Disease	156	58	98	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
21 Other Circulatory Diseases	59	21	38	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
22 Influenza	6	1	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

CAUSES	Persons	M	F	—1		1—2		2—5		5—10		10—15		15—20		20—25		25—35		35—45		45—55		55—60		60—65		65—75		75—80		80—85		85—90	
				M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
23 Pneumonia ...	59	31	28	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	2	1	...	...	...	3	3	9	8	5	5	10	
24 Bronchitis ...	30	17	13	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	5	3	4	2	4		
25 Other Respiratory Diseases	13	9	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	1	...	...	...
26 Ulcer Stomach & Duodenum	10	7	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	1	...	...	...
27 Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea ...	4	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	1	1	...		
28 Nephritis and Nephrosis...	8	4	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	1	1	...	
29 Hyperplasia of Prostate ...	7	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	3	...	...	...	...	...
30 Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion ...	2	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
31 Congenital Malformations	7	3	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
32 Other Diseases	78	35	43	7	6	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
33 Motor Vehicle Accidents	7	5	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
34 All other accidents	34	16	18	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
35 Suicide	7	3	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
36 Homicide, etc.	4	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL	1013	469	544	12	10	...	...	...	...	3	2	6	1	...	...	3	5	4	8	13	43	24	35	26	48	29	120	101	78	98	55	111	54	124	
Inward Transfers	45	24	21	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	...	...	...	1	...	...	2	3	4	...	3	3	2	8	2	1	5	...	3	1	4	...	
Outward Transfers	408	233	175	13	8	1	2	2	1	1	1	4	3	1	...	3	2	4	9	7	24	15	14	13	26	13	65	52	27	27	21	17	16	12	
Public Inst. (Residents)	450	251	199	11	10	2	1	5	1	3	1	2	7	7	28	62	1	8	22	18	73	44	39	36	30	29	11	35	

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING 1956

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Cases Notified	At all Ages		Under 1		1-2		3-4		5-9		10-14		15-24		25-34		35-44		45-64		65 and over	
	M F		M F		M F		M F		M F		M F		M F		M F		M F		M F		M F	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Scarlet Fever ...	15	15	...	...	1	1	7	1	4	9	3	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pneumonia ...	27	25	1	...	2	...	2	2	3	1	...	...	1	1	1	2	1	2	8	6	8	11
Erysipelas ...	2	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	...	...
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	...	31	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17	12	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	4	6	...	...	...	...	1	2	1	...	1	2	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Food Poisoning ...	6	3	...	...	1	...	2	1	1	...	1	1	1	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...
Dysentery ...	195	163	6	8	22	21	22	17	77	61	51	20	2	5	7	17	6	9	1	4	1	1
Whooping Cough ...	30	27	6	3	5	8	6	8	12	7	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles ...	66	40	2	...	14	9	14	10	31	20	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	26	19	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	6	4	3	6	5	4	8	3	3	1
Other Tuberculosis ...	1	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	1	1
TOTAL NOTIFIED	372	335	15	11	45	39	54	41	130	99	62	26	11	29	12	42	12	18	19	16	12	14

NOTE—A Summary of Statistics relating to Number of Notifications, Number of Deaths, Incidence and Death Rates of Infectious Diseases, will be found on page 10, an analysis of Deaths according to Age Periods on pages 82 and 83, and a further note in connection with the Notification of Tuberculosis on page 26.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

PRINCIPAL SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER

B. A. ASTLEY WESTON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

FOR THE YEAR 1956

CITY OF BATH EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Chairman: Alderman Major G. D. Lock, M.B.E., M.C.

His Worship the Mayor (Councillor S. A. Smith)

Alderman L. N. Punter

Councillors :—S. D. Chappell, C. E. S. Dodd, R. F. Emmerson, E. W. Evans, Major W. E. Evans W. H. Gallop, M. L. Giles, K. J. Gray, E. G. Haskins, Miss A. M. Hicks, Mrs. G. Maw, E. Paul, Mrs. M. E. Poynton, R. H. Purdie, A. L. Ricketts, W. H. Rossiter, Mrs. E. M. Williams.

Co-opted Members :

Dr. A. H. Ashcroft, The Ven. E. A. Cook, Mrs. A. B. Curtis, Mr. R. O. H. Dann, The Very Rev. Canon P. V. Hackett, Mr. A. G. C. King, Miss E. R. Nunn, The Rev. J. M. Richardson, Mr. A. B. Sackett, Mr. S. L. Taylor.

Special Services Sub-Committee :

Chairman: Councillor S. D. Chappell

Councillors :—E. G. Haskins, Mrs. M. E. Poynton, Mr. R. O. H. Dann, R. F. Emmerson, E. Paul, A. G. C. King

Advisory—Non-Members of the Education Committee :

Mrs. E. E. Clements, Mrs. J. Wesley Whimster, Miss W. M. King

STAFF OF THE SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE, 1956

MEDICAL

Principal School Medical Officer and Medical Officer of Health :

*B. A. Astley Weston, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Deputy Principal School Medical Officer and Deputy Medical Officer of Health :

*N. Newman, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

School Medical Officers :

*Irene M. Leach, M.B., Ch.B., D.C.H.

*Helen M. H. Mack, M.B., Ch.B.

SPECIAL DEPARTMENTS

Child Guidance :

A. Guirdham, M.A., D.M., B.Ch., D.P.M.

K. Reeves, M.D. (Vienna)

Miss M. Phillips, Psychiatric Social Worker (part-time)

Speech :

Miss G. A. Jansson, L.C.S.T.

Dental :

G. G. Davis, L.D.S. (Principal School Dental Officer)

Miss F. L. Franks, L.D.S. (School Dental Officer)

School Nurses (Full Time) :

Mrs. D. Hales, S.R.N.

Mrs. E. M. Milsom, S.R.N.

Miss M. J. Rafferty, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.

(Part Time)—all Health Visitors.

Dental Attendants :

Miss B. Bowler (retired 5.7.56) ; Miss E. Edmonds ; Mrs. I. K. Allen.

Clerical Staff :

Mr. D. C. Clark

Miss L. Huggins (Senior Assistant Clerk)

Mrs. G. V. Nuttall

Mrs. M. J. Tanner

Miss M. B. Wilmington

*Whole-time Medical Officers of the City Council, but part-time only for the Education Committee.

BATH LOCAL EDUCATION AUTHORITY

PRINCIPAL SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT FOR 1956

SCHOOL POPULATION, December, 1956	...	11,738
Secondary Grammar	... ..	1,156
Secondary Technical	... ..	504
Secondary Modern and Art	... ..	2,859
St. John's R.C. (un-reorganised)	... ..	419
Primary Junior	... ..	2,979
Primary Infants	... ..	1,836
Primary Junior and Infants	... ..	1,859
Day Special	... ..	126
TOTAL		11,738

LIST OF SCHOOLS IN BATH DECEMBER, 1956

	Number on Roll				Canteen	Medical
	Infants		Junior		C—Central	Room
	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	O—Own	—M
G—Group						
Primary (Infants only)						
Christ Church (Miss K. D. Williams)	47	28	—	—	C	—
East Twerton (Miss E. L. W. Hunt)	111	88	—	—	G	—
Fosseway (Miss M. Skidmore) ...	82	107	—	—	O	M
Lyncombe (Miss P. M. Hine) ...	70	54	—	—	C	—
Moorlands (Miss E. Wilkinson) ...	97	100	—	—	O	M
Parkside (Miss G. I. Peacock) ...	103	97	—	—	O	M
Southdown (Mrs. G. E. Jackson)	136	129	—	—	O	—
St. Saviour's (Miss W. M. Carey)	50	64	—	—	O	—
Walcot (Miss G. M. Godley) ...	58	67	—	—	C	—
Wansdyke (Miss D. E. Dunster)...	46	31	—	—	O	M
Weston C. of E. (Miss H. Hinde) ...	47	56	—	—	C	—
Weston St. John's Infs. (Miss M. E. Sparks)	69	99	—	—	G	—

Primary (Junior Only)

Fosseway (Mr. E. G. Jerrome, B.Sc. Econ.)	—	—	215	224	O	M
Harley St. Girls (Miss G. M. Meek)	—	—	210	—	C	—
Moorlands (Mr. S. L. Taylor)	—	—	136	171	O	M
Newbridge (Miss D. Alderwick)	—	—	178	196	O	M
St. Marks (Mr. R. A. S. Fenton)	—	—	122	151	C	—
St. Saviours (Mr. H. Allen)	—	—	103	169	O	—
South Twerton (Mr. R. J. Marks)	—	—	231	330	O	M
Southdown (Mr. R. F. Sanders)	—	—	172	195	O	M
Weston C. of E. (Mr. D. A. Pike)	—	—	92	84	C	—

	Number on Roll				Canteen	Medical
	Infants		Junior		C—Central O—Own G—Group	Room —M
	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys		
Primary (Infants and Juniors)						
Bathwick (Mr. F. W. Weeks) ...	35	32	72	88	O & C	—
St. Luke's (Mr. H. W. G. Smart)	86	89	138	140	O	M
St. Mary's (Miss K. L. Davis) ...	32	51	50	52	C	—
St. Stephen's (Mr. R. R. Broackes)	39	52	42	75	C	M
Twerton C. of E. (Miss M. E. Slade)	71	94	165	153	O	M
Widcombe (Mr. F. J. Baxter) ...	40	37	102	124	G	—
Unreorganised						
St. John's R.C. (Mr. J. H. Gilchrist, B.A.) ...	...	...	...	...	G	M
	49	36	97	96		
			SENIOR			
			Girls	Boys		
Unreorganised						
St. John's R.C. (continued) ...	...	...	63	78	G	M
Secondary Modern						
Oldfield Boys (Mr. F. Castle) ...	...	...	—	436	O	—
Oldfield Girls' (Miss F. M. Blanchard) ...	...	...	551	—	O	—
Walcot (Mr. A. Thomas) ...	...	...	248	246	C	M
West Hill Boys' (Mr. R. O. Dann) ...	...	...	—	647	O	M
West Twerton Girls' (Miss M. A. Wray, B.A.)	...	...	589	—	O	M
Secondary Grammar						
City of Bath Boys' (Mr. L. Scott, M.A.)	...	...	—	535	O	M
City of Bath Girls' (Miss W. M. Cook, B.Sc.)	...	...	621	—	O	M
Other Secondary						
Art Secondary (Mr. T. R. Hall, B.A.) ...	...	...	68	74	G	—
Technical Secondary (Mr. T. J. Nicholas, M.A., B.Sc.) ...	...	...	—	504	C	—
Day Special School for Educationally Sub-Normal Children						
			JUNIOR & SENIOR			
			Girls	Boys		
" Penn Hill " (Mrs. J. Hughes) ...	...	...	39	87	O	M

MEDICAL INSPECTION

During 1956 the following examinations were made in schools :

(a) **Routine—**

Entrants ...	1,082
Second age group ...	1,048
Third age group ...	975
	<hr/>
Total ...	3,105
Other periodic inspections ...	428

Grand Total ... 3,533

The total number of routine examinations which represents 30% of children on school registers still shows a steady increase on previous years. A noticeable factor is the arrival of the post-war "bulge" in the second age group.

The scheme instituted in 1955 whereby School Medical Officers visited as many schools as possible each term has worked very well and has been acclaimed by Head Teachers and Medical Officers alike. It has helped greatly to consolidate the efficacy of the School Health Service on the school. It is hoped to extend this arrangement further as new schools come into being, possessing the necessary facilities.

After only one year, the additional medical examination of Grammar and Secondary Technical School pupils in their second year has so far indicated no undue physical stress on the pupils. It would seem that the stimulus of attaining Grammar School status has provided the necessary zest to cope with the extra work.

(b) **Other Inspections**

Specials	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	587
Re-inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	777
								<hr/>
Total								1,364
								<hr/>

Thus a total of 4,897 examinations were made in schools, Doctors' Clinics held on school premises and at the School Health Department.

Among the Special Inspections are included examinations for certain purposes, as follows :

Infectious Disease	...	...	...	...	...	15
Certification of Fitness for part-time Employment	...	...	...	...	...	253
Home Office " Boarding Out " exams.	...	...	...	...	...	59
Prior to Orthopaedic In-patient treatment	...	...	...	...	...	—
Certification as " Handicapped " Pupils	...	...	...	...	...	86
Prior to admission or return to Residential Schools	...	...	...	...	...	37

As requested in Ministry of Education Administrative Memorandum No. 342 of 31.10.49, the following are the addresses of the principal school clinics. Particulars relating to the clinic sessions held are to be found on page 35 of the main report.

Blue Coat House, Sawclose, Bath.
 Moorlands Infants' School, Moorfields Road, Bath.
 Fosseway Infants' School, Frome Road, Bath.
 St. Luke's, Frome Road, Bath.
 City of Bath Boys' School, Beechen Cliff, Bath.
 Southdown Junior, Mount Road, Bath.

FINDINGS AND TREATMENT

RETURN OF DEFECTS FOUND BY MEDICAL INSPECTION IN THE
YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1956

Defect Code No.	Defect or Disease	PERIODIC INSPECTIONS				TOTAL (including all other age groups)		SPECIALS	
		ENTRANTS		LEAVERS		Requiring Treatment	Requiring Observation	Requiring Treatment	Requiring Observation
		Requiring Treatment	Requiring Observation	Requiring Treatment	Requiring Observation				
4	Skin	3	4	3	1	17	10	10	2
5	Eyes (a) Vision ...	19	31	32	5	121	63	26	—
	(b) Squint ...	3	2	1	1	5	3	1	—
	(c) Other... ..	—	—	—	—	2	1	3	—
6	Ears (a) Hearing ...	—	3	—	—	1	3	2	1
	(b) Otitis Media ...	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
	(c) Other... ..	—	6	1	1	5	11	1	—
7	Nose or Throat ...	7	60	2	1	15	79	12	2
8	Speech	3	17	1	—	10	22	10	1
9	Lymphatic Glands ...	—	12	—	—	1	12	1	—
10	Heart	1	5	—	—	1	14	2	3
11	Lungs	2	22	—	—	2	34	2	2
12	Developmental—								
	(a) Hernia... ..	4	1	1	1	7	6	—	—
	(b) Other	1	3	1	3	2	22	1	—
13	Orthopaedic—								
	(a) Posture	3	14	5	21	21	71	9	12
	(b) Feet	3	12	2	5	8	22	3	—
	(c) Other	8	13	9	9	23	40	22	5
14	Nervous system—								
	(a) Epilepsy	1	4	—	1	1	8	—	1
	(b) Other	—	7	—	1	3	16	4	1
15	Psychological—								
	(a) Development ...	1	1	—	1	7	3	6	—
	(b) Stability	1	5	—	—	3	7	12	2
16	Abdomen	—	5	—	1	—	7	1	—
	Other	1	43	3	23	6	127	13	22

NUTRITION

Classification of the General Condition of Pupils Inspected during the Year
In the Age Groups

Age Groups	Number of Pupils Inspected	Satisfactory		Unsatisfactory	
		No.	% of col. 2	No.	% of col. 2
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Entrants	1,082	1,076	99.4	6	0.5
Second Age Group	1,048	1,044	99.6	4	0.4
Third Age Group	975	973	99.8	2	0.2
Other Periodic Inspections	428	424	99.0	4	0.9
Total	3,533	3,517	99.5	16	0.5

This table shows the altered classifications on the more standardised basis, as being either satisfactory or unsatisfactory. Generally it can be said that the nutrition of schoolchildren is good.

Cleanliness

The School Nurses have continued to carry out regular cleanliness inspections and during 1956 made 353 visits to schools carrying out 24,118 examinations. 34 children were found to be verminous at these inspections but 36 old and new cases had been cleared up by the end of the year. Cleansing material is always supplied, but if the parents are unable to use it satisfactorily the School Nurses do the necessary cleansing. During 1956 no Cleansing Notices under Section 54 of the Education Act 1944 were issued nor was it necessary to send Cleansing Orders. 104 visits were made to homes in respect of cleanliness.

The percentage of children found verminous continues to fall progressively, during the year only 0.1 % were found unclean compared with 0.2 % during 1955.

MINOR AILMENT CLINICS

The arrangements for doctor's clinics at Bluecoat Central Clinic and at certain schools, and the treatment of minor ailments by School Nurses on their routine visits to schools continue as before.

Minor Ailments

*Number of cases treated
or under treatment dur-
ing the year*

(A)

Skin—Ringworm—Scalp	...	...	—
Ringworm—Body	...	...	—
Scabies	...	...	2
Impetigo	...	...	16
Other skin diseases	...	...	467
Eye Disease	...	...	33
(External and other, but excluding errors of refraction, squint and cases admitted to hospital)			
Ear, Nose and Throat Defects	...	...	3
Miscellaneous	...	...	742
(e.g., Minor injuries, bruises, sores, chilblains)			
Total	...		1,263

(B)

Total number of cases attending Authority's Central Clinic.	Doctor's Sessions	715
	Nurse's Sessions	1,094
Number of individual cases treated at schools by School Nurses	...	4,125
Number of follow-up treatments	...	6,400

The noticeable fall in the number of "other skin diseases" from 588 in 1955 to 467 is in a large way attributable to the co-operation of the

school physical training instructors who do a routine check of feet prior to each session of physical training performed barefooted ; this led to the early diagnosis of the very contagious verruca lesion and athlete's foot.

VISUAL DEFECTS

Total number of Eye Clinics held at Bath Eye Infirmary	136
Total attendances	1,617
Total number attending with refractive error and squint	1,189
New cases	277
Prescribed spectacles	512
Number of other eye conditions treated at Eye Infirmary and Minor Ailment Clinics	102

EAR, NOSE AND THROAT DEFECTS

Total number of Consultant Clinics	20
Total number of attendances	189

Nose and Throat Defects	108
---------------------------------------	-----

Operations

Tonsils and adenoids	62
Other conditions	4

Ear Defects

Total cases referred	25
Total received treatment	10
(Treated in Minor Ailment Clinics)	3)

Audiometry

An audiometer for fine testing of hearing of school children was obtained in 1955. Eight children with suspected hearing defect were tested. It is designed to screen all children suspected of being educationally subnormal or retarded, all children with speech defects, and eventually all children on entry into school.

ULTRA-VIOLET RAY TREATMENT

It was not found necessary to refer any children for this treatment during the year.

SCHOOL NURSES AND FOLLOW-UP

Three full-time School Nurses and nine Health Visitors giving part of their time to School Health work, are engaged in attending at School Medical Inspection, at the Minor Ailment Clinics, in cleanliness inspections and in following up cases in the homes. A total of 1,602 visits to schools and 2,253 follow-up visits to schoolchildren's homes in connection with cleanliness and other matters were made.

ORTHOPAEDIC AND POSTURAL DEFECTS

During 1956 the following work was carried out :

Surgeon's Sessions... ..	31
After-Care Sessions (4 per week)	145

No. of new cases (excluding infants)	...	...	...	122
No. of old cases (continuing)	...	...	...	298
Total attendances	...	...	...	1,174
Attendances at Massage Clinic (Orthopaedic Hospital)	...	...	...	220
Cases treated by Physiotherapist	...	...	...	44
Admitted to the Orthopaedic Hospital :				
Poliomyelitis (rehabilitation)	...	...	} Acute Chronic	3
Suspected Tuberculosis	...	...		—
Cerebral Palsy	...	...	...	1
Congenital deformities	...	...	...	4
Others	...	...	...	1
Fractures and Injuries, except burns	...	...	...	7
Spinal Conditions Exclusive Cong. Defs. and T.B.	...	...	...	10
Hip Conditions	...	...	...	1
Foot Deformities (excluding Talipes)	...	...	...	5
Osteomyelitis	...	...	...	15
				3
			Total	50

CHILD GUIDANCE CLINIC

This clinic continues to work under the limitation of an incomplete staff. Much benefit has been obtained by children from play-therapy instituted last year and carried out by the Consultant and Psychiatric Social Worker in the absence of a Play Therapist. It is even more important that an Educational Psychologist should be in the Child Guidance team, and it is still hoped that this appointment will be made in the near future, especially in view of the recommendations in the Underwood Report on the Maladjusted Child. In the meantime, the School Medical Officers, who should be otherwise employed, continue to give their contribution to this very specialised work.

In 1956 there were 84 sessions held at the Child Guidance Clinic at which 43 new cases and 70 continuing cases made 329 attendances. This shows a continued increase on previous years.

Report from Miss M. Phillips, Psychiatric Social Worker

During 1956, 30 children attended for play therapy with the following results on discharge :—

- 6 Much improved
- 5 Slight improvement
- 3 Ceased to attend
- 5 Referred to other clinics
- 1 Transferred to another area
- 1 Child sent to Hostel for maladjusted
- 9 Still attending at end of year
- (2 were required to attend by Court Order)

In all cases parents were also seen by the Psychiatric Social Worker either at the Clinic or at home.

(B) Among new Handicapped Pupils ascertained the following were recommended for education in special schools :

Delicate	2
Physically Handicapped	2
Educationally Sub-normal	24
Maladjusted	3
Total ...	31

(C) The following table shows the overall numbers and disposition of Handicapped Pupils as on 31st December, 1956.

Category	In Spec. Schools		Indep'ndent Schools (under L.E.A. arrangements)	In Hospital.	Having Home Tuition	At Home	Attending Ordinary Schools	Total
	Day	Resid.						
Blind	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Partially Sighted	—	3	—	—	—	—	1	4
Deaf	—	6	1	—	—	—	—	7
Partially Deaf	—	2	—	—	—	—	1	3
Delicate	—	1	—	—	2	—	3	6
Physically Handicapped	—	2	3	1	4	1	20	31
Educationally Sub-normal	109	3	—	—	—	—	25	137
Maladjusted	1	—	—	—	—	—	5	6
Epileptic	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Total	110	18	4	1	6	1	56	196

The year has shown an overall decrease in the number of Handicapped Pupils—196 children being classified out of a total school population of 11,738.

The expense borne by the Local Education Authority during the financial year ending 31st March, 1956, was £5,291, of which £691 was paid for education in hospitals. £586 was expended on the provision of home tuition.

Blind and Partially Sighted

The one child continues at the Royal School of Industry for the Blind, Bristol. Two Partially Sighted children are at Exhall Grange,

Warwick, and one at the Royal West of England School, Exeter. One Partially sighted child who attended the ordinary school last year has now been transferred to Penn Hill School because of her educational subnormality.

Deaf and Partially Hearing

Four Deaf children continue at the Royal West of England School for the Deaf, Exeter, one at a school for the Deaf and Dumb, Margate, and one at St. John's R.C. School for the Deaf, Boston Spa. Two Partially Deaf children were admitted to the Royal West of England School for the Deaf, Exeter, and one who was awaiting placement on my last report has now transferred to another Authority.

Delicate

Of the three Delicate children having special educational treatment, one was at St. Patrick's Open Air School, Hayling Island, and two received home tuition.

Physically Handicapped

Two children are in Residential Special Schools, one at Warlies Hospital Home, Waltham, Essex, and one at Hesley Hall, Tickhall, Nr. Doncaster, newly placed during the year. One child was transferred back to the ordinary school as being fit enough to receive her education in the company of normal children. Three children continue in a small independent school where special facilities are made available for them, and one is not being provided with education as yet being physically unable to receive benefit from it.

Educationally Sub-Normal

There were 109 Educationally Sub-Normal Bath children at Penn Hill Day Special School at the end of the year, while three attended St. Francis Residential School, Birmingham. The number of children in this group attending ordinary schools has fallen to 25, many parents being more co-operative in sending their children to the Day Special School.

Maladjusted

One Maladjusted child continues at Penn Hill Day Special School while three others continue at the ordinary school pending placement in residential schools or hostels.

Epileptic

The one child classified as Epileptic is able to receive satisfactory benefit from attendance at the ordinary school. Three others having epileptic symptoms do not require special ascertainment in this group.

SPEECH THERAPY CLINIC

The Speech Therapist has kindly supplied the following observations :

						<i>Boys</i>	<i>Girls</i>	<i>Total</i>
Attendances	671							
Sessions	... 168							
No. of children seen	...	...	...	...	66	10	76	
Defects								
Stammer	...	...	...	...	16	1	17	
Delayed Speech Development			...	...	1	1	2	
Defective Articulation :								
(a) Cleft Palate Speech	...	...	...	...	1	1	2	
(b) Nasality	...	...	...	...	3	0	3	
(c) Lisp	...	...	...	...	15	4	19	
(d) Various defects	...	...	...	...	30	3	33	
						66	10	76

One boy stammerer was referred to the Child Guidance Clinic and accepted for treatment. A girl with a marked speech defect was transferred to the school for the educationally sub-normal and ceased attendance at the Speech Clinic.

The large number of children in the unspecified Defective Articulation group show great variety in their symptoms, conditions associated with defective speech, their rate of progress in making improvement and in the probable origins of their difficulty.

Early referral is of importance so that some assessment of each child's needs can be attempted and the co-operation of the parents enlisted. This is nearly always forthcoming and help in guiding home efforts prevents anxiety and unsuitable methods from delaying progress. There is no rule of thumb method for knowing at what age treatment should be begun.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Notifiable infectious illness has remained at a low level during the year, and in no case has it been necessary to close schools.

Scarlet Fever

Thirty cases were notified in children of all ages. They were mostly of a mild type, and almost all were nursed at home.

Diphtheria

For the third successive year there were no cases of this disease.

Arrangements for immunisation against Diphtheria as given in previous Reports continued throughout the year, with the greatest co-operation from the Head Teachers. During 1956, 81 children between 5-15 years received primary immunising doses of either A.P.T. or T.A.F., as necessary, and 836 under 5 years. In addition, 569 children received reinforcing injections. It is estimated that of the child population under

15, 72.9% have been immunised, but of this percentage only about 43% received protection by initial or reinforcing doses within the past 5 years.

It is reasonably certain that the practice of systematic immunisation of children under 15 years of age is responsible for the effective control of this disease, and to be sure that an epidemic will not occur again, at least 75% of the child population under 15 should be protected. Although the present level of 72.9% is below the safety mark it shows a slight improvement on the previous year and maintains the increase over the past few years.

Tuberculosis—Mass Radiography

Arrangements were made with the Mass Radiography Unit to carry out surveys on two occasions at the various secondary schools and training colleges during 1956. A total of 2,911 children and staff were X-rayed of whom 3 were found to have inactive tuberculosis, one active tuberculosis, and a further 9 had conditions which were not tuberculous.

The teaching and catering staff of the Local Authority's Schools are encouraged to attend for X-ray when the Unit is in Bath. All new appointments are examined by X-ray to exclude tuberculosis and are requested to sign a declaration submitting to annual examination.

B.C.G. vaccination is offered to schoolchildren who are contacts of known cases of pulmonary tuberculosis. This work is carried out by the Chest Physician. It is hoped to extend B.C.G. vaccination to school-leavers in the near future.

Measles and Whooping Cough

There was a sharp fall in the number of cases of measles notified, 106 as against 1,384 for 1955. Of this number 56 occurred in children of school age. This followed the national trend.

The number of cases of whooping cough notified fell from 225 cases in 1955 to 57 in 1956. Twenty of these cases involved children of school age.

Apart, however, from immediate complications a large number of children who contract these diseases are rendered delicate for many years of their childhood as a result of an attack during infancy. Protection against whooping cough by means of the Suspended Vaccine and the combined Diphtheria-Whooping Cough Vaccine is offered to all children who were not immunised in infancy or who need a "boosting" dose. It is anticipated that this will alleviate these complications and subsequent general ill-health.

Dysentery

As indicated in my Report as Medical Officer of Health, the number of cases of Dysentery rose to a record number of 358 in 1956, of which 225 were schoolchildren. This increase was in common with a general rise throughout the country. The outbreaks occurred mainly in the South-down and Whiteway areas involving the Primary Junior and Infant Schools there. Neither school was closed but the efforts to check the

spread of infection involved the School Nurses in many visits to the homes, and there was also a considerable loss of school time in a number of cases where the infection persisted.

Every effort is made through home visits, by letter and instruction through the schools to impress the need for personal cleanliness in checking the spread of this disease.

Acute Poliomyelitis

There was no major outbreak of this disease. During 1956 10 cases of Acute Poliomyelitis were notified, 4 of them schoolchildren. There were no deaths.

SCHOOL MEALS AND MILK

Pasteurised milk is available to all schoolchildren and is also available to handicapped children receiving home tuition. On a day in November when a return was submitted by all Head Teachers, a total of 8,952 one-third pints were issued to pupils in attendance at schools maintained by the Local Education Authority and 2,404 one-third pints to pupils in attendance at independent schools. It would be fair to say that these amounts would be the usual daily delivery.

School meals are supplied in every school, 19 having a self-contained kitchen/dining room, the remainder being supplied from two central kitchens. The number of meals served increases annually, and on a day in November, 7,248 meals were supplied to maintained and non-maintained schools. The total number of dinners served during the year was 1,243,403 for an average of 190 feeding days, which exceeded by almost 55,000 the previous year's total of 1,188, 593 for an average of 188 feeding days.

The average daily number of dinners served in maintained schools during the year was 6,544 (last year 6,322). The total daily average of dinners produced, including dinners supplied to non-maintained schools, was 7,015 (last year 6,793).

SCHOOL WELFARE

The Chief School Welfare Officer has submitted the following details :

Employment of Children

The number of children registered for employment during the year was as follows :—

Delivery of newspapers	...	...	...	...	...	182
Other employment	...	...	...	...	...	98
						<hr/>
						280
						<hr/>

Of the above number 36 were girls, 3 of whom assisted in the delivery of newspapers. A constant check is being kept by the School Welfare Department to ensure that the employment byelaws are observed.

Special Transport

Only one girl, a physically handicapped pupil, is being provided with special transport.

Absentees

The yearly percentage attendance was 89·9, this being less than previous years. This fall is attributed to the very severe weather during February, the percentage during that month being 84·6.

REPORT OF THE PRINCIPAL SCHOOL DENTAL OFFICER, 1956

This year we have been reduced to a strength of two whole-time dental officers, as Miss Shinkwin, who resigned at the end of 1955, has not been replaced. However, we have had the services of a general dental practitioner (Mr. R. L. Royal), for one session per week and the two anaesthetists, Dr. Beddard and Dr. Northover, have approximated one session weekly between them.

There has been a marked increase in the number of children being treated by the general dental practitioners and a great amount of conservation has been accomplished. It reflects the poor state of the teeth as a whole when at a dental inspection, large numbers of children under the age of ten, are found with all four first permanent molars heavily filled, some having as many as three fillings in one tooth.

Dental Inspections

The number of children inspected at the schools was 5,827. With a school population of 11,738, this means that the hoped for yearly inspection is, with a staff of two, only a remote possibility.

Conservation

Conservation of the temporary dentition continues to be very limited, and a decision has to be made before attempting massive restorations in the permanent dentition, as it is found especially in the younger age groups that there is a very large failure rate in such conservations.

Orthodontics and Dentures

The more complicated cases present the difficulty here. Unfortunately, there is no orthodontist available for consultation in such cases. In 1955 a meeting was held at the Manor Hospital to explore the possibilities of an orthodontist being appointed but so far, nothing has transpired.

The dentures supplied are mostly occasioned by accidents at play in which a tooth is either knocked out or fractured, necessitating replacement by a partial denture.

Hospital Facilities

There is still no dental registrar at the hospital. Two dental practitioners do one session per week at the hospital. This makes prompt treatment of an emergency quite a difficulty.

The following figures relate to Dental Inspection and Treatment for the year.

1. Number of pupils inspected by the Authority's Dental Officers :—					
(a)	At Periodic inspections	...	...	...	5,827
(b)	As Specials	...	...	...	1,162
Total (1)					6,989

2.	Number found to require treatment	...	...	...	...	5,390
3.	Number offered treatment	...	...	...	...	4,045
4.	Number actually treated	...	...	...	...	2,290
5.	Number of attendances made by pupils for treatment, <i>including</i> those recorded at heading 11 (h)	...	...	...	...	7,153
6.	Half days devoted to :					
	Periodic (School) inspection	...	...	...	...	46
	Treatment	...	...	...	...	913
	Total (6)	...	...	...	...	959
7.	Fillings :					
	Permanent Teeth	...	...	...	...	2,208
	Temporary Teeth	...	...	...	...	207
	Total (7)	...	...	...	...	2,415
8.	Number of teeth filled :					
	Permanent Teeth	...	...	...	...	2,190
	Temporary Teeth	...	...	...	...	205
	Total (8)	...	...	...	...	2,395
9.	Extractions :					
	Permanent Teeth	...	...	...	...	623
	Temporary Teeth	...	...	...	...	1,025
	Total (9)	...	...	...	...	1,648
10.	Administration of general anaesthetics for extraction	...	...	...	...	1,110
11.	Orthodontics :					
	(a) Cases commenced during the year	...	...	...	...	63
	(b) Cases carried forward from previous year	...	...	...	...	94
	(c) Cases completed during the year	...	...	...	...	42
	(d) Cases discontinued during the year	...	...	...	...	24
	(e) Pupils treated with appliances	...	...	...	...	157
	(f) Removable appliances fitted	...	...	...	...	97
	(g) Fixed appliances fitted...	...	...	...	...	Nil
	(h) Total attendances	...	...	...	...	939
12.	Number of pupils supplied with artificial dentures					22
13.	Other operations :					
	Permanent Teeth	...	...	...	...	1,219
	Temporary Teeth	...	...	...	...	177
	Total (13)	...	...	...	...	1,396

